'Giant of our history'

Biden, others gather to pay tribute to former U.S. Sen. Bob Dole. **NEWS, PAGE 4**

Huskies stung by Jackets

No. 3 UConn women fall to unranked Georgia Tech, 57-44. **SPORTS, PAGE 1**

Morning clouds



Some developing afternoon sun; high of 45. **SPORTS, PAGE 6**



VOLUME CLXXXV COURANT.COM FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2021

Carbone's delays decision on reopening

Hartford restaurant to wait until employees return to city offices

By Susan Dunne Hartford Courant

Carbone's Ristorante, a Franklin Avenue gathering place that has served Hartford power brokers since 1938, will remain closed with the hope of returning when downtown workers return in sufficient numbers.

The famed Hartford restaurant, shuttered since the start of the pandemic in March 2020, has suffered from the lack of corporate presence in the city during the work-at-home days of the pandemic, owner Vinnie Carbone

"We're just waiting for things

to flow in whatever direction they flow toward us making a decision," Carbone said. "We at least need 50% corporate return before we can begin making decisions." Four generations of Carbones have run the restaurant.

"We need to flush out this new variant. We need to see what the new year brings," he said. "We're trying to be fluid. That's one thing we learned from the pandemic: try to be fluid and nimble in a situation we've never encountered before as an industry."

Hartford's hospitality industry has been hard-hit by the pandemic, which has canceled conventions, business travel and shows that brought people to the city's hotels and restaurants. Even after the pandemic subsides, the number of workers in Hartford is expected to be far less, as many employees

continue to work from home at least some of the time.

Big downtown employers like The Hartford Financial Services Group and CVS Health, which owns Aetna, have both said they'll move some of their downtown workers to a hybrid arrangement. The Hartford recently deferred a planned December return to the

Turn to Carbone's, Page 2

HARTFORD APARTMENT COMPLEX DEVELOPMENT



A rendering on a tablet shows how the courtyard in the renovated student housing at Market and Temple streets in downtown Hartford is expected to look when work is complete late next year. MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT

Housing with a history

Conversion of former student housing downtown into apartments takes name of Sage-Allen, historic department store that occupied site for nearly a century



A construction worker clears out one of the units in the former student housing at Temple and Market streets.

By Kenneth R. Gosselin Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — The courtyard in the old college housing at the rear of the former Sage-Allen & Co. department store property in downtown Hartford is all concrete and not much to look at, much less spend time in.

Developers who are converting 42 townhouse, dormitory-style buildings into 78 garden-style and 13 townhouse rentals have plans for a courtyard with patios, commercial grills, benches, strings of lights above and Astroturf under foot.

Astroturf was chosen because the courtyard is right above a 343-space parking garage.

"Rather than it being blah, we want to make this pop," Martin J. Kenny, president of Hartford-based Lexington Partners, said Wednesday, during a tour of the property. "This, to me, looks a little bit like a Hollywood setting. We need to fill in the blanks a little."

Interior demolition is now well underway on the \$9.1 million conversion, at Market and Temple streets. The entire property will now take the Sage-Allen

name, after a store that drew shoppers for nearly a century, and will include what had been called the Lofts at Main and Temple.

The Lofts face Main Street, with the student housing behind them, and incorporated the historic facade of the Sage-Allen store. But the name never gained much recognition, Kenny said. Upgrades and improvements also are planned for the former Lofts — now the Sage-Allen Residences — as part of the project. The converted student housing will be christened the Sage-Allen Apartments.

The conversion of the student housing will include studio, one- and two-bedroom units averaging from 724 to 1,377 square feet. Ten percent of the units will be leased as "affordable" units for a 10-year period. Average monthly market-rate rents will range from \$1,378 to \$2,150, with parking to be included, at least for the first year.

The larger, four-bedroom townhouses will average 1,449 square feet with an average market-rate rent of \$3,180.

Plans call for granite countertops,

Turn to Sage-Allen, Page 3

Pfizer boosters extended to age 16

Several million are cleared to receive 3rd dose of vaccine

By Sharon Lafraniere and Noah Weiland The New York Times

Federal regulators Thursday authorized booster shots of the Pfizer-BioNTech coronavirus vaccine for 16- and 17-year-olds, at least six months after they received their second shot of that vaccine. The move clears the way for several million teenagers to receive an additional shot.

All adults have been eligible since Nov. 19 to receive a booster six months after their second shot of Pfizer or Moderna's vaccines, or two months after a Johnson & Johnson shot. Nearly 50 million Americans — or one-fourth of those fully vaccinated — have gotten the additional shots.

The Food and Drug Administration broadened Pfizer's authorization to cover the younger age group on an emergency basis. The other two coronavirus vaccines, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson, are authorized for use only for adults.

The agency's decision, which was expected, comes as an initial spate of laboratory tests have suggested that the new fast-spreading variant, omicron, seemed to dull the power of two doses of the Pfizer vaccine.

"Since we first authorized the vaccine, new evidence indicates that vaccine effectiveness against COVID-19 is waning after the second dose of the vaccine for all adults and for those in the 16- and 17-year-old age group," said Dr. Peter Marks, who oversees the FDA's vaccine division. A booster "will help provide continued protection against COVID-19 in this and older age groups," he added.

Dr. Rochelle Walensky, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention director, promptly signed off on the move, saying the agency was encouraging adolescents to receive a booster dose.

"Although we don't have all the answers on the omicron variant, initial data suggests that COVID-19 boosters help broaden and strengthen the protection against

Turn to Booster, Page 3

South Windsor-born Hathaway on astronaut list

Navy commander among NASA candidates

By Seamus McAvoy Hartford Courant

The anxious waiting that comes with a potential job offer is never easy. For Jack Hathaway, who was dealing with a shoddy connection at sea aboard the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman, things were even more complicated.

Hathaway was under the flight deck in the ready room, preparing for a relaxing weekend. The call never came. Then he checked his email.

"Jack, you haven't been answering your phone! Don't worry, it's not bad news," read the email from the chief of the Astronaut Office at NASA, Reid Wiseman.

Once Hathaway, 39, a Connecticut native and commander in the U.S. Navy, finally got a line out of the ship, he learned he had been selected as a NASA astronaut candidate. He is one of 10 individuals selected from a field of more than 12,000 applicants to join NASA's first new class in four years.

"I'm excited, I'm a little bit nervous, I want to do well, I want to be part of the team," Hathaway said. "I think mostly I'm just excited for the opportunity."

Hathaway was not available for an interview with the Courant as he and his wife, Amy, and their two children prepared to relocate to Houston, but he

documented his experience in a

candidate interview with NASA.

Hathaway's path to lower orbit and beyond began in South Windsor, where he was born to Donna and Jeff Hathaway. He described it as a quiet, normal suburban town with "not anything crazy going on there" — an understandable assessment for a pilot with 39 combat flight missions under his belt.

He remembers his time as a restless young student who

Turn to Hathaway, Page 2



Jack Hathaway has been selected as one of 10 astronaut candidates by NASA. ROBERT MARKOWITZ/NASA-JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

Newtown classes online on Sandy Hook anniversary

Newtown students will learn remotely Dec. 14, the ninth anniversary of the Sandy Hook shooting, the superintendent of schools said. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1**

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office for some workers due to concerns about omicron. Both companies have planned for some workers to return in January. Property-casualty insurer Travelers Cos. Inc. has targeted Jan. 18 for a broader return of its 7,000 Hartford employees.

For the influential and the politically connected, an empty Carbone's is a sign

of an era passing.
"I remember long afternoons. Liquid lunches. Great food. There is so much about that place that is just so good. The other thing is the crowd that used to hang out there," said Ray Dunaway, the longtime morning radio host on WTIC 1080 who is retiring this month, was a regular at Carbone's.

Regulars included former Mayor Mike Peters, business leaders, high-powered lawyers, and top elected offi-

"The service was just spectacular. It was kind of like a clubhouse in a sense. You had a lot of regulars. You went in there and you would

see somebody you knew," Dunaway said. "It was a place unique to Hartford."

State Sen. John Fonfara, who says he lives a stone's throw from Carbone's, recalls holding meetings there.

"The Democratic caucus, for years we had our first caucus of every term at Carbone's," he said. It will be "a very sad day" if it does close for good. "It's a fixture of life in the South End. For decades, Carbone's has been the place to be for politicians, for business executives, for families. If this is the end of the line, I am sad for Hartford, for the South End, for Franklin Avenue. This place is an anchor."

Tom Ritter, who was Speaker of the state House of Representatives from 1993 to 1998, said in his day, Carbone's was a political hangout "where you'd always see a friendly face."

"If you didn't have plans for lunch and you wanted to get out of the office, you'd just go there and the place was filled with everyone you'd know ... Arthur Anderson, Kevin Dubay, Bill DiBella. You'd hang out there and got a lot of business done," he said.

Ritter said the troubles Carbone's and other city restaurants are going through "furthers the fact that restaurants are being concentrated in our suburban communities, which is unfortunate. We used to have great neighborhood restaurants."

Hartford attorney Jim Wade said he had lunch there "almost every day," first for the quality of the food, second for the camaraderie.

"Part of the reason it did so well was the physical layout of the bar. It was a quadrangle. Everybody was sitting near everybody else. You could be having a good conversation and perfect strangers who happened to be sitting near were suddenly drawn into the conversation," he said.

However, when he had to talk business, he went to the main dining room. "A lot of stuff I talked about with clients was private. And business people don't want it spread around what their business is about. That was the dining room," he said.



Carbone's, which has served Hartford diners for decades, is closed and may reopen in January. HARTFORD COURANT

Wade said if this is the end of Carbone's, "it will not be easy to replace it."

Carbone's other two restaurants, Carbone's Kitchen in Bloomfield and Carbone's Prime in Rocky Hill, remain open.

"They've been coming back great. But even with them, I am really hopeful that after the first of the year there will be more corporate business," Vinnie Carbone said. "It has been an honor and privilege carrying on this

four-generation ristorante that is deeply woven into the fabric of the community and city of Hartford."

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Hathaway

found it difficult to sit still or concentrate on subject areas that didn't engage him. It was his third grade teacher who, in an effort to help Hathaway focus, ignited an interest in mathematics.

"She brought in a set of [puzzles] for me, a book of tangrams," Hathaway said in the interview video. "I was so enthralled by this kind of mathematics, kind of geometry, kind of shape challenge problem of trying to visualize and solve.

"It got me excited about geometry and math and science. It was kind of my first step, I think, to being interested in that kind of education."

While Hathaway's penchant for math and problem solving blossomed, so did his knack for leader-



NASA announced its 2021 astronaut candidate class on Monday. The 10 candidates, pictured here at an event at Ellington Field near NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, are Nichole Ayers, Christopher Williams, Luke Delaney, Jessica Wittner, Anil Menon, Marcos Berríos, Jack Hathaway, Christina Birch, Deniz Burnham and Andre Douglas.

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ROBERT MARKOWITZ/NASA-JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

ship: Hathaway attained the rank of Eagle Scout while part of Boy Scout Troop 186

in South Windsor. Dreams of becoming an astronaut tend to fall away for other children with the passage of time, but Hathaway stayed committed. Hathaway decided to pursue a career as a Navy pilot in part because of the well-trodden path from sea to space following his graduation from South Windsor High School in 2000.

Hathaway received degrees in physics and history from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2004. He went on to earn a master's of science in flight dynamics at Cranfield University, based in England and specializing in aeronautic studies, and a master's in national security and strategic studies at the U.S. Naval War College.

Like most Navy pilots, Hathaway was a test pilot for about two years after graduation before he returned to

the operational flight side. He deployed aboard the USS Truman in support of Operation Inherent Resolve with Strike Fighter Squadron 136, and in 2019 was assigned to the Pentagon where we worked on tactical datalink operations.

Hathaway and the rest of his astronaut class could be assigned to myriad missions once they report for duty at Johnson Space Center in Houston in January for a two-year training period. Missions could include

research and development into commercial space travel in partnership with private companies, deep space missions or deployments to the Moon with the Artemis team. The first thing Hathaway

plans to do when he gets to outer space? Unstrap, he said, and look

out the spacecraft window. "People talk about how awe-inspiring the vista of the Earth itself is," Hathaway said. "I'm really excited to get out of that seat, float

around a little bit, and just

look out the window and appreciate how wonderful our planet Earth is."

The process to becoming an astronaut is notoriously difficult, and NASA is highly selective. But astronauts come from all backgrounds, and there's no one path that leads to the administration

For young people dreaming of becoming part of the next generation of star sailors, as the Greek word translates to, Hathaway recommends becoming the best you can be at what you are passionate about.

"Be that type of person that excels at what they do, loves what they do, is passionate about what they do, and does it with other people," Hathaway said. "Things will work out."

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please visit courant.com/lottery. WEDNESDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

0 1 6 ws: 4 0837ws:0 CASH 5 6 10 15 22 35 LUCKY FOR LIFE 20 24 40 43 LB:16

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3 7 33 50 69 PB: 24 PP: 2



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FROM PAGE ONE



Sage-Allen & Co. occupied a place on Hartford's Main Street department store row for nearly a century. The store closed in 1990. COURANT FILE PHOTO



The Sage-Allen Apartments, former student housing behind the Lofts at Main and Temple apartments, are being converted into mostly studio and one-bedroom apartments. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT



Developer Marty Kenny is converting the Sage-Allen Apartments, the former student housing site, into mostly studio and one-bedroom apartments. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Sage-Allen from Page 1

stainless steel appliances and new cabinetry. Amenities will include an upgraded fitness center and a business center with an area to privately participate in Zoom meetings. The parking garage will have electric vehicle charging stations.

Kenny and his partners Shelbourne Global Solutions LLC of Brooklyn. N.Y., downtown Hartford's largest commercial landlord, and parking magnate Alan Lazowski – are pushing ahead at a time when the path of the pandemic remains uncertain.

Kenny said he is optimistic about leasing the new apartments but he says it will be crucial to find storefront tenants for the building facing Main Street and elsewhere in the heart of downtown.

"That's going to be the difference-maker to having people live downtown," Kenny said. "And we're really hoping that corporate Hartford will start coming back to work."

Surges in COVID-19 have delayed the return of office workers to downtown



A construction worker clears out one of the units in the former student housing behind the Lofts at Main and Temple apartments that are being converted into mostly studio and onebedroom apartments. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

several times. Last week, The Hartford Financial Services Group pushed back the return of senior managers amid concerns about the omicron variant.

Kenny said he is upbeat about leasing storefront space. He's entered final negotiations for a locally-owned Mexican-themed restaurant in space formerly occupied by Dish, at the corner of Temple and Main streets. He'd also like to see a locally-run coffee shop or brewery in the space formerly occupied by Freshii market.

"Our retail has got to be local, and it's got to be run by local people who care about the immediate area," Kenny said.

The converted student housing would hit the downtown rental market along with hundreds of other apartments in the next 18 months or so. Those include 270 mixed-income apartments near Dunkin' Donuts Park, while another 147 could come if the upper floors of the struggling Hilton hotel on Trumbull

Street is converted to apartments.

Kenny and his partners also are converting historic buildings on Pratt Street into apartments, which will add

about another 100 rentals.
"To me, I'm not concerned," Kenny said. "It's like the restaurant center in West Hartford Center. When you get a critical mass of restaurants, everyone gets better."

Apartment occupancy downtown dipped in the pandemic, but, so far, occupancy has recovered, settling in at the low-to-mid 90% overall, according to statistics from the Capital Region Development Authority for rental projects they have helped finance.

The Sage-Allen project is a complex one because the mortgage on the property, which had been in foreclosure, had to be purchased, pushing the total cost to nearly \$36 million. CRDA has loaned \$2 million in state-taxpayer backed funds

to the redevelopment. The conversion of the student housing is part of a larger, \$100 million vision pursued by Lexington, Shelbourne and Lazowski that also involves Pratt Street and the redevelopment of the Talcott Street garage. Crucial to those plans are a mix of shops, restaurants and entertainment spaces to transform the area into a destination from both inside and outside the city.

The existing student housing, first built for the University of Hartford, was never considered a resounding success in attracting college students to live downtown. It is often overlooked, especially when the pandemic forced downtown employers to cancel summer internship programs. Interns often stayed at the townhouses in recent years.

Kenny hopes changing the name to Sage-Allen will open a new chapter for the property by drawing back on its roots. A mural of the department store building in its heyday will grace the courtyard. Framed historic photos are planned as artwork for hallways.

"We love tying into the history and this place has such a rich history of the department store — that and G. Fox," Kenny said. "When you say Sage-Allen, everyone knows that."

Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at kgosselin@ courant.com.

Booster

from Page 1

omicron and other variants," she said in a statement.

Vaccination and getting a booster when eligible, along with other preventive measures like masking and avoiding large crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, remain our most effective methods for fighting COVID-19," Dr. Janet Woodcock, acting FDA commissioner, said in a statement.

The CDC, which sets vaccine policy for the federal government, and FDA acted without input from their vaccine expert advisory panels, which have typically met publicly before eligibility for shots has been authorized and expanded.

Those meetings would have given regulators and experts a chance to publicly discuss the merits of the move, including a review of safety data gathered on adolescents who had received the Pfizer-BioN-Tech vaccine.

Pfizer and BioNTech said Wednesday that tests with blood samples from people who had received only two doses showed much lower levels of virus-fighting antibodies against omicron than against an earlier version of the virus.

Antibodies are the immune system's first line

of defense against the virus, and the results suggest that two doses may not be sufficient to protect against infection, officials from the companies said.

With a booster, the level of antibodies working to neutralize the omicron variant were comparable to those combating the original variant after two doses, the companies said.

Senior administration health officials have said omicron, which contains dozens of mutations never seen before, is even more reason for everyone eligible for a booster to get one. More than 200 million Americans over 60% of the population — have been fully vaccinated.

Although the U.S. vaccination rate overall is still well behind that of some other countries, the discovery of omicron has driven many people to get shots, even as much remain unknown about the variant.

Support for boosters has been growing among public health experts in the face of the omicron variant; some who previously opposed them now support a broad campaign.

The FDA's expert committee rejected Pfizer-BioN-Tech's request in September to clear a booster shot for 16- and 17-year-olds, partly because of concerns over what they saw as insuffi-



Ariel Quero, 16, left, reacts after receiving a dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine in July in New York. MARK LENNIHAN/AP

cient data about a rare heart condition tied to the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna shots, especially in younger

men. That condition, myocarditis, or inflammation of the heart muscle, can also be caused by the virus. Federal scientists have said that cases

tend to be mild and resolve quickly.

According to federal data, about 5.5 million teenagers ages 16 to 17 — two-thirds of that age group — have received at least one dose of Pfizer's vaccine. More than 4.7 million have received two doses. Roughly 3 million got their second shot at least six months ago and would be eligible for a third shot this month.

Dr. Albert Bourla, the chief executive of Pfizer, called the expansion of booster shots "a

critical milestone." Pfizer is supplying booster doses to the U.S. government under an agreement negotiated months ago.

"The companies do not expect that today's news will impact the existing supply agreements in place with governments and international health organizations," a statement released Thursday by Pfizer said.

WORLDNATION

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Biden warns of democracies at risk

At summit, nations urged to shore up values, institutions

By Aamer Madhani and Colleen Long Associated Press

WASHINGTON - President Joe Biden sounded an alarm about a global slide among democratic institutions Thursday as he convened the White House's first virtual Summit for Democracy. He called for world leaders to "lock arms" to strengthen democracies and demonstrate their worth in a changing world.

Biden called it a critical moment for fellow leaders to redouble their efforts to bolster democracies. In making the case for action, he noted his own battle to win passage of voting rights legislation at home and alluded to challenges to America's democratic institutions and traditions.

"This is an urgent matter," Biden said in remarks to open the two-day summit. "The data we're seeing is largely pointing in the wrong direction."

The video gathering comes as Biden has repeatedly made a case that the U.S. and like-minded allies need to show the world that democracies are a far better vehicle for societies than autocracies.

That is a central tenet of Biden's foreign policy outlook — one that he vowed would be more outward looking than his predecessor Donald Trump's "America First" approach. Biden in his remarks announced he was launching an initiative to spend up to \$424 million for programming around the world that supports independent media,



President Joe Biden addresses the virtual Summit for Democracy from the White House, **DOUG MILLS/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

anti-corruption work and

But the gathering also drew backlash from the United States' chief adversaries and other nations that were not invited to participate.

Ahead of the summit, the ambassadors to the U.S. from China and Russia wrote a joint essay describing the Biden administration as exhibiting a "Cold War mentality" that will "stoke up ideological confrontation and a rift in the world."

The administration has also faced scrutiny over how it went about deciding which countries to invite. China and Russia were among those not receiving invitations.

Other leaders took turns delivering their own remarks on the state of democracy - many prerecorded – often reflecting on the stress that rapidly evolving technology is having on their nations. They also bemoaned the increase of disinformation campaigns aimed at and undermining institutions and elections.

"The democratic conversation is changing," said Denmark's Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen. "New technologies and large tech companies are increasingly setting the stage for the democratic dialogue, sometimes with more emphasis on reach than on freedom of speech."

The summit comes as Biden is pressing Russia's Vladimir Putin to stand down after a massive buildup of troops on the Ukraine border, creating growing concern in Washington and European capitals that Russia may look to once again invade Ukraine. Biden on Wednesday said that he warned Putin in a video call of "severe consequences" if Russia invaded.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who took part in Thursday's summit and later spoke by phone with Biden, said on Twitter, "Democracy is not a given, it must be fought for.

Poland's Andrzej Duda also spoke out against Russia in his address, decrying Moscow and its support of Belarus. Poland and Western allies have accused Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko of using migrants as pawns to destabilize the 27-nation European Union in retaliation for its sanctions on his authoritarian regime. Hundreds of migrants, mostly from the Middle East, flocked to the Belarus-Poland border. Most were fleeing conflict or despair at home and were looking to reach Western European countries.

Putin made no public comment on the summit Thursday as he took part in his own video call with members of the Kremlin council for human rights.

Poland "took on a

commitment to be a support for democracy in Eastern Europe," Duda said. "It is a beautiful task, but it has its consequences. It has made us the target of the Kremlin propaganda."

The U.S. may be at its own pivot point.

Local elected officials are resigning at an alarming rate amid confrontations with angry voices at school board meetings, elections offices and town halls. States are passing laws to limit access to the ballot, making it more difficult for Americans to vote. And the Jan. 6 attack at the Capitol has left many in Trump's Republican party clinging to his false claims of a stolen election, eroding trust in the accuracy of the

"Here in the United States we know as well as anyone that renewing our democracy and strengthening our democratic institutions requires constant effort," Biden said.

Biden has said passage of his ambitious domestic agenda — the \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill he signed into law, as well as the roughly \$2 trillion "Build Back Better Act" of social and climate change initiatives moving through the Senate — will demonstrate how democracy can improve people's lives.

Some advocates also want Biden to focus on other ways to shore up democracy at home.

One test came Thursday as the House approved the **Protecting Our Democracy** Act, the third in a trio of bills – alongside the Freedom to Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Act — largely backed by Democrats. All three are expected to be stalled by Republicans in the Senate.

President honors 'a giant of our history' at Capitol

DC ceremony 1st of several events to pay tribute to Dole's life

By Lisa Mascaro Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Bob Dole lay in state Thursday at the U.S. Capitol, as the president and others gathered to pay tribute to a "giant of our history" who served the country in war and in politics with pragmatism, self-deprecating wit and a bygone era's sense of common civility and

compromise. President Joe Biden, a longtime friend, said Dole, the former Republican senator, presidential contender and World War II veteran, should have the final word as he read from his colleague of 25 years' own observation that he had served the country best when putting "principles over party.'

"Truth of the matter is, as divided as we are, the only way forward for democracy is unity — consensus — the only way," Biden told those gathered. "We may follow his wisdom and his timeless truth and reach consensus on the basic fundamental principles we all agree on."

The morning ceremony brought about 100 invited

guests and congressional leaders as Dole's casket, draped with the American flag, sat under the dome. Dole, who served nearly 36 years in Congress, died Sunday at the age of 98.

Biden said Dole "belongs here, in this place, this temple to liberty and temple to possibility." The president said of Dole: "He, too, was a giant of our history."

The service will be the first of several in Washington commemorating Dole's life and legacy. Thursday's event at the Capitol and Friday's funeral at the Washington National Cathedral are closed to the public. But Dole's funeral will be livestreamed at the World War II Memorial on the National Mall, and his motorcade is expected to stop by later at an event with actor Tom Hanks honoring his life and military service before the casket travels to his Kansas hometown and the state

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Dole was being honored among the "pantheon of patriots" his casket placed atop the Lincoln catafalque that has been used since 1865.

Pelosi kissed the hand of Dole's wife, Elizabeth Dole, and his daughter, Robin Dole, who were seated near Biden, before telling those gathered that Dole's "principled leadership" was long respected "on both sides of the aisle, both sides of the Capitol."

Black draperies hung on doorways under the Capitol dome in preparation for the service. The chairs were set up, socially distanced for COVID-19 protocols. A lectern was positioned in a way that the statue of another Kansas stateman, Dwight Eisenhower, would be seen in the background behind the day's speakers.

Elizabeth Dole appeared to cry as she approached the casket and reached out her hand. She and first lady Jill Biden blew kisses to one another before the president spoke.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, now the longest-serving Republican Senate leader. said earlier that Dole idolized Eisenhower, calling the former president and general a hero who embodied "the finest qualities of the American people."

"We can say with certainty that Eisenhower isn't the only Kansan who meets those standards," McConnell said in a speech earlier this week.

McConnell had raised concerns that an event planner for the memorial service,



President Biden pays respects to Bob Dole as the former senator lies in state Thursday in the Capitol Rotunda in Washington. JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST VIA AP, POOL

Tim Unes, had been subpoenaed by the House committee investigating the deadly Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol about his role planning that day for Donald Trump, the former president, according to a person granted anonymity to discuss the private conversation. Trump had urged his followers to head to the Capitol to fight the certification of Biden's election victory.

Dole family spokesperson Steve Schwab said in a statement Thursday that Unes' role had been terminated.

Schwab said Unes, a

former Dole campaign staffer, had "volunteered his time to serve on the advance team for this week's memorial events."

Schwab said Elizabeth Dole, "was previously unaware" of Unes' participation and once he made her aware she "terminated his volunteer role."

Unes did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The story was first reported by The New York Times.

Dole's quick wit was on display after losing the presidential contest to incumbent Democrat Bill Clinton, who awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom days before the 1997 inaugura-

McConnell said this week that when it was time for Dole's remarks, he stood at the podium and began: "I, Robert J. Dole, do solemnly swear ... oh, sorry, wrong speech!"

But that humor was rarely seen on the campaign trail or in his public pronounce-

Dole announced in February 2021 a diagnosis of stage 4 lung cancer.

Michigan school district faces two \$100M suits after Oxford shootings

By Corey Williams and Mike Householder Associated Press

SOUTHFIELD, Mich. — The parents of a 17-yearold girl who was shot in the neck at Oxford High School during a mass shooting that left four students dead filed a pair of lawsuits seeking \$100 million each against a Michigan school district, saying Thursday that the violence could have been prevented.

The lawsuits were filed in federal court in Detroit by Jeffrey and Brandi Franz on behalf of their daughters, Riley, a senior who was wounded Nov. 30, and her sister Bella, a 14-yearold ninth-grader who was next to her at the time she was shot, attorney Geoffrey Fieger said.

The parents attended a news conference Thursday with Fieger in his Southfield offices. Jeffrey Franz appeared stoic, staring ahead as the personal injury lawyer accused school officials and staff at Oxford



A memorial for the victims of the Oxford High School shooting is seen Tuesday in Oxford, Michigan. EMILY ELCONIN/GETTY

High of not doing enough to prevent the shooting and protect students. Brandi Franz sat, often with head

bowed. The parents did not address reporters.

The lawsuits are the first known civil suits filed in

connection with the shooting. Named in the suits are the Oxford school district, Superintendent Tim Throne, Oxford High School principal Steven Wolf, the dean of students, two counselors, two teachers and a staff member.

Ten students and a teacher were shot at the school in Oxford Township. Ethan Crumbley, a 15-yearold sophomore at the school, was arrested at the school and has been charged as an adult with murder, terrorism and other crimes.

Personal-injury lawyers have expressed doubt that the school district could be successfully sued for letting Crumbley stay in school. That's because Michigan law sets a high bar to wring liability out of public schools and other arms of govern-

Fieger said a federal lawsuit allows him to subpoena the school district for records and evidence connected to Crumbley and the shooting.

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In fact, according to an international survey conducted by independent research firm Povaddo and commissioned by PMI, a majority of adults surveyed, around seven in 10 (72 percent) support tobacco companies working with governments, regulators, and public health experts to ensure that smokers have access to, and accurate information about, smoke-free alternatives. Support is even higher among current smokers, at 83 percent.*

Transformative collective action occurs when policymakers consider such a clear consensus. But behind this consensus is a simple truth: More inclusive approaches yield more impactful solutions. On any number of global issues, considering experts—and the stakeholders who are most affected—clears a path for progress.

We must not let old ways of working—from behind closed doors and without input from all concerned parties—obscure truths and block more immediate solutions for the world's over 1 billion smokers. It is not credible for policymakers to simply rely on the static—and sometimes entrenched—views of a few. Decisions must draw from a broader pool of concerned individuals—starting with adult smokers—and rely on the best available science. At Philip Morris International, we strive for transparency as we transform our business by focusing on smoke-free alternatives to replace cigarettes as soon as possible for adults who would otherwise continue smoking—inviting policymakers, the scientific community, and NGOs to review and verify our scientific findings.

By scrutinizing facts and including all voices, we can achieve the well-informed collective action required to solve the many challenges our world is facing. Working together and embracing facts, new technologies, and science is our shared responsibility and the least we can do to drive positive change.

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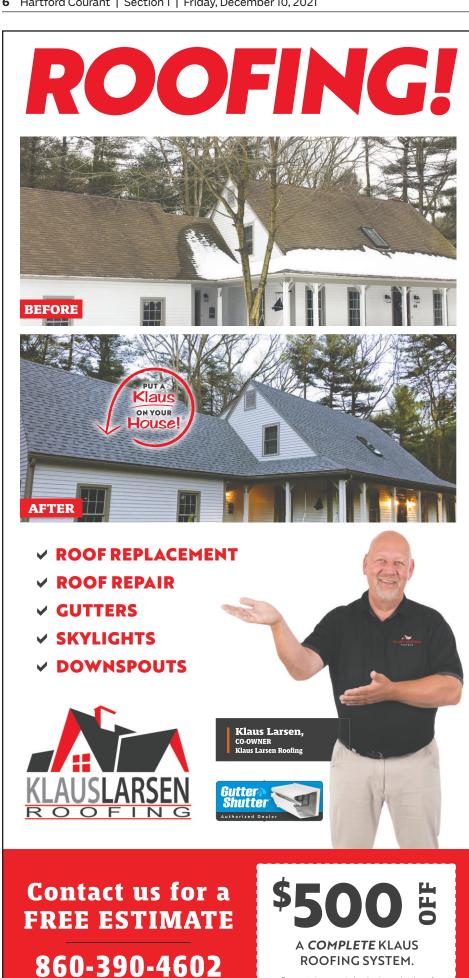
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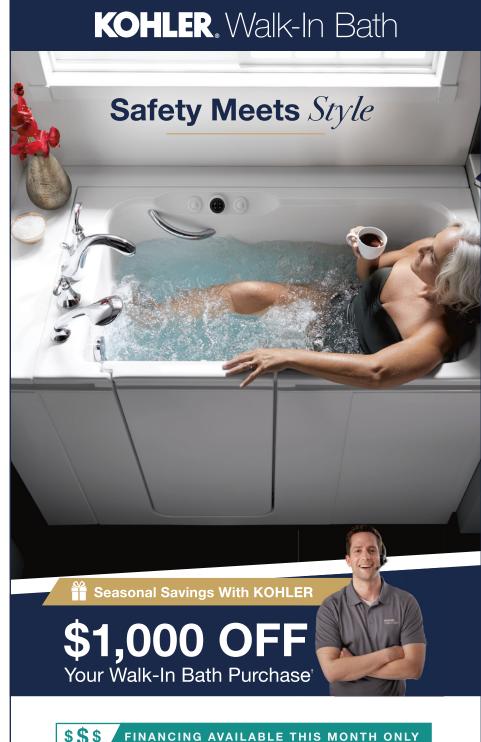
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 *PMI international survey, sample of 29,484 adults.





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Schools canceling classes on Fridays

Some parents upset, but educators cite burnout, shortages

By Giulia Heyward The New York Times

DETROIT — Caitlin Reynolds, a single mother, was happy that her son, L.J., was finally settled into fourth grade after a rocky experience last year with remote learning.

Then, on Nov. 17, an announcement: Detroit public schools would close its classrooms every Friday in December. There would be virtual school only.

Two days later came a follow-up announcement: School was also canceled starting that Monday, for the entire week of Thanksgiving. This time, there would be no online option.

"You need to take the kids back out again?" Reynolds said. "How is that not going to be harmful to these students?"

After a few months of relative calm, some public schools are going remote — or canceling classes entirely — for a day a week, or even for a couple of weeks, because of teacher burnout or staff shortages.

At least six other school districts in Michigan extended Thanksgiving break, and three districts in Washington state, including Seattle Public Schools, closed Nov. 12, the day after Veterans Day.

In one instance, Brevard Public Schools in Florida used leftover "hurricane days" to close schools for the week of Thanksgiving.

In Utah, the Canyons School District announced that all of its schools would go remote one Friday a month from November until March, equivalent to more than week of school.

A few of these districts have closed with little notice, sending parents scrambling to find child care, as well as



Caitlin Reynolds and her son, L.J., at home Nov. 30 in Royal Oak, Mich. She is out of paid time off as schools close temporarily. NIC ANTAYA/THE NEW YORK TIMES

summon the wherewithal to supervise remote learning. Beyond the logistics, many parents are worried that with additional lost days of in-person school, their children will fall further behind.

School districts cited various reasons for the temporary closings, from a rise in COVID-19 cases to a need to thoroughly sanitize classrooms. But for many schools, the remote learning days an option that did not exist before the pandemic — are a last-ditch effort to keep teachers from resigning. They are burned out, educators said, after a year of trying to help students through learning loss, and working overtime to make up for labor shortages.

Battles in the classroom — from mask mandates to debates over critical race theory — have also taken a toll, said Randi Weingarten,

president of the American Federation of Teachers, the country's second-biggest teachers' union.

"What you hear from teachers is that it's been too much," she said. "And they're trying the best that they can."

These temporary closures, though, may only hamper relationships with parents at a moment when tensions in many districts are already high.

Because of school cancellations last academic year, Reynolds, who works at a University of Michigan research lab, had already run out of paid time off. Her mother was able to watch her fourth-grade son last Friday. But now she is scrambling to make sure someone else can be home with him every Friday this month — or lose hundreds of dollars from her paycheck.

School fights and other

outbursts from students led district leaders at Reynolds Middle School, in Fairview, Oregon, just east of Portland, to cancel classes from Nov. 18 through Dec. 7. They gave parents two days' notice.

"Are you kidding me?" said Missy Kisselman, the mother of Sophia, an eighth grader there. "I mean, are you kidding me?"

Kisselman, who is working out of her living room as a county case manager, said it was "nearly impossible" for her to help Sophia, who has attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, with her schoolwork.

"I feel like, if this school knew that they were already understaffed starting this school year, it should have just stayed online," Kisselman said.

Steven Padilla, a district spokesperson, said the school was using this time to reflect on its safety protocols to "ensure that we will not have to return to shortterm distance learning" in the future.

In Portland, Oregon, the teachers' union is proposing early-release days for high-schoolers after they return from winter break.

Elizabeth Thiel, president of the Portland Association of Teachers, says her union is receiving an "alarming" number of inquires from teachers asking for help resigning. If the union can figure out a plan now, she says, that may help avoid mass resignations, which would force schools to go entirely remote.

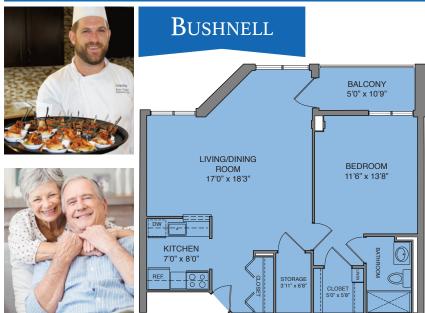
"It is far better for our students and families to be able to plan on an inconvenience like that, than it would be for the whole system to stop functioning," Thiel said. Research shows that disruptions during the pandemic led to students falling behind in math and reading, and students who were most affected by the crisis were already behind. Reynolds, the single mother from Detroit, said her son, once a straight-A math student, tested two grade levels behind when he returned to the classroom

Last Friday, Theo Eggebrecht, 17, a senior in the arts track at Cass Technical High School in Detroit, did not have any at-home supplies for two of his arts classes that day. He said his science teacher did not show up for online class. Instead, he spent several hours doing chores, petting his cat and scrolling through TikTok.

"I'm a senior, this is one of my last years of education," he said. "It's nerve-wracking to miss out on that."



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Afghans stuck in limbo at US bases

Many thankful, but worry about loved ones left behind

By Ben Fox Associated Press

JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKE-HURST, N.J. — The former interpreter for the U.S. Army counts himself among the lucky as an Afghan who managed to make it through frantic crowds outside the Kabul airport to board a military evacuation flight out of the country with little more than the clothes on his back.

Esrar Ahmad Saber waits, along with 11,000 other Afghans, from the safety of a U.S. base in central New Jersey, while worrying about family members left behind and enduring a prolonged resettlement process.

Saber has been at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lake-hurst since Aug. 26 as has nearly everyone else at one of the three "villages" set up there for refugees. "They want to go to their new homes and start their new lives," the 29-year-old said. "They are really excited about it. But the fact is, the process is very slow."

process is very slow."

The slow pace has become a defining characteristic of Operation Allies Welcome, the largest U.S. refugee resettlement effort in decades, which follows the Aug. 30 withdrawal of troops from the country and an end to America's longest war.

Even as Afghans still arrive, thousands remain in limbo, anxious about their future as they fearfully follow the news of Taliban reprisals and economic collapse in their homeland.

Operation Allies Welcome reached a milestone this week as the number resettled in American communities — 37,000 — surpassed the 35,000 at six bases around the country. But people involved with



Afghan refugee mothers and kids play Dec. 2 in a park on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. BARBARA DAVIDSON/POOL VIA AP

the effort readily concede it's been a challenge for a number of reasons, including a scarcity of affordable housing, cutbacks to refugee programs under President Donald Trump as well as the number of refugees.

"It's been a shock to the system because we just haven't had this many people arrive at the same time in a really long period," said Erol Kekic, a senior vice president with Church World Service, one of nine national resettlement agencies working with the government.

The resettlement organizations and the Department of Homeland Security, the lead federal agency in the effort, are working toward a goal of having everyone off the bases by Feb. 15. The New Jersey installation now hosts the largest number, down from a high of 14,500, followed by Fort McCoy in Wisconsin with 7,500.

There are 3,200 more at overseas transit points awaiting flights to the U.S. as well as some still making it out of Afghanistan.

The government last week conducted a guided tour of the New Jersey installation, where refugees stay in brick buildings previously used as barracks or in sprawling tent-like prefabricated structures.

There are fields for soccer, courts for basketball and cavernous warehouses where refugees receive clothes and other supplies. There are also classrooms for the children, who make up about 40% of the population, as well as language lessons and job training for adults and a medical clinic.

Afghans staying at the base go through immigration processing as well as health screening and vaccinations, including for COVID-19. More than 100 babies have been born at the base.

Saber, who came from Afghanistan by himself and left a brother and sister behind, says the refugees are happy, just eager to move on.

"It's a dream to be here," he said. "They just want to get out as soon as possible." Among the refugees are

Among the refugees are new arrivals as well. Ghulam Eshan Sharifi, a microbiologist, came Nov. 14

Ghulam Eshan Sharifi, a microbiologist, came Nov. 14 with his wife and two children after 23 days in Qatar. He was relieved but worried about his adult daughters in Kabul who held government jobs before the Taliban returned.

"They have no jobs now."

"They have no jobs now. They cannot even go outside so we are obviously afraid about what will happen to them," Sharifi said. "We are hoping that God will solve the problem."

He said he hopes to settle in the Denver area but does not yet know when, or if, that will happen. Many refugees are also recovering from what

was for many a trau-

matic escape from a coun-

try that collapsed much

more quickly than the U.S. government anticipated.

"Most, if not all of them have worked with our forces and they have been part of the U.S. effort in some way," said Air Force Col. Soleiman Rahel, who came to the U.S. with his family as a refugee from Afghanistan when he was a teenager and is on a temporary assignment working with the refugees at the base. "So, it's very traumatic. It's very hard for

them."
Rahel said he can appreciate the challenges the new arrivals will face since his own parents confronted similar ones, including being forced to take lower-level jobs than they were accustomed to back in Afghanistan so they could support their family and the

kids could go to school.

He also can understand why many refugees want to move to areas where there are established Afghan communities — particularly Northern California, the Washington, D.C., area and Houston — even though those requests are straining resettlement efforts and contributing to the delays.

"That's natural, because we always gravitate towards our culture toward people who can help you," Rahel said. "But we try to give them some comfort that regardless of where they go, American society is such a forgiving and giving society that people will be there to help them out."

Resettlement officials say it might have been easier if the entire process had been shifted to a U.S. territory such as Guam, which has been used for that purpose in the past, or if there had been more time to prepare in advance for their arrival.

"This thing should have been planned before they announced the withdrawal," Mark Hetfield, president of HIAS, another of the nine resettlement organizations,

"But considering they decided to plan for this after they made the decision to withdraw, given the depletion of the capacity of the U.S. refugee program over the last four years, none of this is surprising."

While refugees receive temporary assistance after being resettled, most are expected to achieve self-sufficiency. That proves to be difficult when many don't speak English well, have academic credentials that won't be recognized in the U.S. and lack the job and credit history needed.

Saber said he hopes his experience as a military interpreter will allow him to join the Army. He recently learned that he would be getting resettled in Phoenix, but has no idea when he'll leave. "I'm just waiting for a flight."



has come up with a plan to end tobacco smoking — lifetime bans. **DAVID ROWLAND/AP**

New Zealand rolls out plan to ban future cigarette sales

By Natasha Frost The New York Times

New Zealand unveiled a plan Thursday to eventually ban all sales of cigarettes in the country, a decadeslong effort unique in the world to prevent young people from

taking up smoking.

The proposed legislation, which is expected to become law next year, would leave current smokers free to continue buying cigarettes. But it would gradually raise the smoking age, year by year, until it covers the entire population

Starting in 2023, anyone younger than 15 would be barred for life from buying cigarettes. So, for instance, in 2050 people 42 and older would still be able to buy tobacco products — but anyone younger would not.

"We want to make sure young people never start smoking, so we will make it an offense to sell or supply smoked tobacco products to new cohorts of youth," Dr. Ayesha Verrall, the country's associate health minister, said in Parliament on Thursday. "People aged 14 when the law comes into effect will never be able to

legally purchase tobacco."

The legislation was among several proposals announced on Thursday that aim to reduce smoking levels in New Zealand across all ethnic groups, including its poorer Indigenous Maori and Pacific Island citizens, below 5% by 2025. Currently the rate is just under 10%.

New Zealand first announced this target in 2011. Since then, it has steadily raised the price of cigarettes to among the highest in the world. A pack in New Zealand costs about 30 New Zealand dollars, or a little over \$20, second only to neighboring Australia, where wages are considerably higher.

Verrall said the government was not considering raising prices beyond that point. "We've already seen the full impact of excise tax increases," she said. "Going further will not help people quit. It will only further punish smokers who are struggling to kick the habit."

struggling to kick the habit."
Banning tobacco sales, despite the clear benefits to public health, has been a virtual nonstarter around the world, with arguments often centering

on civil liberties and fears of increased smuggling. In 2010, the Himalayan nation of Bhutan prohibited the sale of tobacco products, only to suspend the restrictions last year amid worries that cigarette traffickers would bring in the coronavirus.

As New Zealand unveiled its proposal, the government acknowledged the possible effects on the black market, which makes up at least 10% of tobacco sales in the country.

It said that smuggling of tobacco products into New Zealand, particularly by organized crime groups, had been rising.

"The changes proposed in this document may contribute to this problem," the government's proposal notes.

Since the New Zealand government began targeting smoking, rates have fallen far below the global average: 9.4% of New Zealanders currently smoke, down from 18% in 2008. Around 14% of people in the United States smoke, and roughly 20% worldwide.

The proposal did not say how the ban on sales would be enforced.

Senate advances bill clearing path to boost US debt ceiling

By Emily Cochrane
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — The Senate on Thursday cleared away the last major hurdle to raising the debt ceiling, effectively ending a Republican blockade and all but guaranteeing that Congress will be able to move quickly in the coming days to steer the government away from a first-ever federal default.

In a vote of 64-36, 14 Republicans joined every Democrat to take up a legislation that would smooth and speed the way for Congress to increase the statutory borrowing limit by a set amount, still to be determined.

The action broke through months of politically charged wrangling in the 50-50 Senate, where Republicans refused to let Democrats take up any long-term debt ceiling increase, using the filibuster to block their efforts to do so.

efforts to do so.

The stalemate ended this week, when Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., the minority leader, cut a deal with leading Democrats on a convoluted process that would allow the borrowing cap to be raised on a simple majority vote, with only Democrats supporting it, rather than subjecting it to the 60-vote threshold that applies to most major legislation.

McConnell was among the Republicans who voted to advance it, amid recriminations from lawmakers and activists in his party who said it was a betrayal.

Its passage was expected, sending it to President Joe Biden for his signature.

That would pave the way for a separate vote to raise the limit by as much as \$2.5 trillion, expected early next week.

It puts Congress on track to avoid a fiscal crisis with little time to spare.

The Treasury Department has said that it could breach the statutory debt



Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., was able to piece together a coalition as he works on the process to raise the federal debt limit. ANNA MONEYMAKER/GETTY

limit soon after Dec. 15, and would no longer be able to finance the government's obligations.

The measure was packaged with legislation that would postpone scheduled cuts to Medicare, farm aid and other mandatory spending programs, a sweetener for reluctant Republicans who have held firm against giving Democrats the ability to raise the

debt ceiling.

It would establish a one-time, fast-track pathway for the Senate to raise the debt limit by a specific amount with a simple majority vote, clearing away the threat of a filibuster or other procedural hurdles that would allow Republicans to ston its passers.

cans to stop its passage.

"The nation's debt has been incurred on a bipartisan basis, so I'm pleased that this responsible action will be taken today to facilitate a process that avoids a default," Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., the majority leader said Thursday.

ity leader, said Thursday.
While Democrats have not said how much they will increase the borrowing cap, it is expected that they will try to delay another fiscal cliff until after the midterm elections next year, lawmak-

ers said.
One Treasury estimate

suggested that Democrats would need to raise it by as much as \$2.5 trillion to cover that period, according to a person familiar with the preliminary accounting who disclosed it on the condition of anonymity.

Given that Democrats are using the fast-track budget reconciliation process to muscle through Biden's \$2.2 trillion climate, tax and social spending bill over their opposition, Republicans had demanded that Democrats use the same maneuver — which shields legislation from a filibuster — to address the debt limit.

Several Republicans warned that the maneuver would set up a dangerous precedent that could erode the rules of the Senate filibuster that have long protected the minority party.

But as he did in October, McConnell was able to scrounge together support from a coalition that included members of his leadership team, centrists and retiring lawmakers.

Republicans said that as long as Democrats took responsibility for the final vote raising the limit, they would be satisfied, promising to use the vote as a political cudgel in the midterm elections.

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFING

Court rejects Trump's efforts to keep records from Jan. 6 committee

From news services

WASHINGTON - A federal appeals court ruled Thursday against an effort by former President Donald Trump to shield documents from the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol.

In a 68-page ruling, the three-judge panel tossed aside Trump's various arguments for blocking through executive privilege records that the committee regards as vital to its investigation into the run-up to the deadly riot aimed at overturning the results of the 2020 presidential election.

Judge Patricia Millett, writing for the court, said Congress had "uniquely vital interests" in studying the events of Jan. 6 and said President Joe Biden had made a "carefully reasoned" determination that the documents were in the public interest and that executive privilege should therefore not be invoked. Trump also failed to show any harm that would occur from the release of the sought-after records, Millett wrote.

"On the record before us, former President Trump has provided no basis for this court to override President Biden's judgment and the agreement and accommodations worked out between the Political Branches over these documents," the opin-

It adds, "Both Branches agree that there is a unique legislative need for these documents and that they are directly relevant to the Committee's inquiry into an attack on the Legislative Branch and its constitutional role in the peaceful transfer of power.

The appeals court ruled that the injunction that has prevented the National

Archives from turning over the documents will expire in two weeks, or when the Supreme Court rules on an expected appeal from Trump, whichever is later. Lawyers for Trump can also ask the entire appeals court to review the case.

Child pornography: Former reality TV star Josh Duggar was taken into custody Thursday after a federal jury convicted him of downloading and possessing child pornography.

The jury in Fayetteville, Arkansas, found Duggar, 33, guilty on one count each of receiving and possessing child pornography. He faces up to 20 years in prison and fines of up to \$250,000 for each count when he's sentenced.

U.S. District Judge Timothy Brooks said sentencing will happen in about four months, Fayetteville TV station KNWA reported.

Duggar and his large Arkansas family starred on TLC's "19 Kids and Counting" until the network canceled the show in 2015 following revelations that he had molested four of his sisters and a babysitter. Authorities began investigating the abuse in 2006, but concluded that the statute of limitations on any possible charges had expired.

Myanmar troops: Myanmar government troops rounded up villagers, some believed to be children, tied them up and slaughtered them, according to a witness and other reports. An opposition leader said the civilians were burned alive, as repression of resistance to a de facto coup takes an increasingly brutal turn.

A video of the aftermath of Tuesday's assault apparently retaliation for an attack on a military convoy



The nativity scene and the Christmas tree that adorn St. Peter's square at the Vatican is seen during a media preview Thursday. The nativity scene from the Huancavelica region, in Peru, and the 113-year-old, 92-foot-tall tree, a gift from the city of Andalo in Trentino Alto Adige-South Tyrol region, northeastern Italy, will be lit during a ceremony Friday. ANDREW MEDICHINI/AP

showed the charred bodies of 11 people, lying in a circle amid what appeared to be the remains of a hut.

Outrage spread both inside and outside Myanmar as graphic images were shared on social media of the assault, which Human Rights Watch said was similar to other recent attacks and looked like it was meant to be discovered.

Opposition spokesperson, Dr. Sasa, said the attack began after a military convoy - which was raiding villages in the country's northwest hit a roadside bomb. Troops retaliated first by shelling the village of Done Taw, then rounding up anyone they could capture there.

Vaccine mandates: The Senate narrowly approved a resolution Wednesday to nullify the Biden administration's requirement that businesses with 100 or more workers have their employees be vaccinated against the coronavirus or submit to weekly testing.

The vote was 52-48. The Democratic-led House is unlikely to take the measure up, which means the mandate would stand, though courts have put it on hold for now. Still, the vote gave senators a chance to voice opposition to a policy that they say has sparked fears back home from businesses and from unvaccinated constituents who worry about losing their jobs should the rule go into

Lawmakers can invalidate certain federal agency regulations if a joint resolution is approved by both houses of Congress and signed by the president, or if Congress overrides a presidential veto. That's unlikely to happen in this case.

Iran nuclear talks: Negotiations between Iran and world powers aimed at salvaging a tattered 2015 nuclear deal resumed in Vienna on Thursday, with tensions high after Tehran made demands last week that European countries strongly criticized. The talks' chairman said he detected "a renewed sense of purpose."

Diplomats from Britain, France and Germany had urged Tehran to come back with "realistic proposals" after the Iranian delegation made numerous demands last week that other parties to the accord deemed unacceptable. Last week's talks were the first in over five months, a gap caused by a new hard-line government assuming power in Tehran.

European Union diplomat Enrique Mora, who chaired Thursday's meeting of all the deal's remaining signatories — Iran, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China - said afterward that he felt "a renewed sense of purpose on the need to work and to reach an agreement on bringing the (agreement) back to life."

He said that it is becoming "more imperative" with time to reach an agreement quickly.

Wildfire arrests: A father and son were arrested Wednesday on suspicion of starting a massive California wildfire that destroyed

many homes and forced tens of thousands of people to flee Lake Tahoe communities earlier this year, author-

David Scott Smith, 66, and his son, Travis Shane Smith, 32, are accused of reckless arson in a warrant issued before formal charges are filed, the El Dorado County District Attorney's office

Mark Reichel, the attorney for both men, said they were arrested Wednesday afternoon and that reckless arson means starting a blaze by accident but "to such a degree that it was considered reckless."

Authorities allege they caused homes to burn and people to be injured in the fire that began in August. The Caldor fire scorched over 346 square miles from east of Sacramento to the Nevada border, threatening ski resorts and other prominent recreational areas.

The fire destroyed more than 1,000 homes and other buildings while crossing a mostly remote forested area of seasonal cabins.

Actor found guilty of staging racist attack, lying to police

By Don Babwin and Sara Burnett Associated Press

CHICAGO — Former "Empire" actor Jussie Smollett was convicted Thursday on charges he staged an anti-gay, racist attack on himself nearly three years ago and then lied to Chicago police about it.

In the courtroom as the verdict was read, Smollett stood and faced the jury, showing no visible reaction.

The jury found Smollett, 39, guilty on five counts of disorderly conduct — one count for each separate time he was charged with lying to police in the days after the alleged attack. He was acquitted on a sixth count, of lying to a detective in mid-February, weeks after Smollett said he was attacked.

The charge is a class 4 felony that carries a prison sentence of up to three years, but experts have said if convicted, Smollett would likely be placed on probation and ordered to perform community service.

The damage to his personal and professional life may be more severe.

Smollett lost his role on the TV program "Empire" after prosecutors said the alleged attack was a hoax, and he told jurors earlier this week that "I've lost my livelihood."

The jury deliberated for just over nine hours Wednesday and Thursday after a roughly one-week trial in which two brothers testified that Smollett recruited them to fake the attack near his home in downtown Chicago in January 2019. They said Smollett orchestrated the hoax, telling them to put a noose around his neck and rough him up in view of a surveillance camera, and that he said he wanted video of the hoax made public via social media.



Actor Jussie Smollett returns to court after iurors reached a verdict Thursday. He was found guilty on five charges. CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/AP

Smollett testified that he was the victim of a real hate crime, telling jurors "there was no hoax.'

He called the brothers "liars" and said the \$3,500 check he wrote them was for meal and workout plans. His attorneys argued that the brothers attacked the actor - who is gay and Black - because they are homophobic and didn't like "who he was."

They also alleged the brothers made up the story about the attack being staged to get money from Smollett, and that they said they wouldn't testify against him if Smollett paid them each \$1 million.

Lee rejects Alden's takeover offer

By Josh Funk Associated Press

Newspaper publisher Lee Enterprises has rejected a takeover offer from the Alden Global Capital hedge fund that is one of the largest newspaper owners in the country with a reputation for intense cost cuts and layoffs, but the fight over the company's future is likely far from

Lee said Thursday that its board unanimously rejected Alden's offer to buy the company for \$24 per share or about \$141 million because it isn't in the best interests of shareholders. Also Thursday, Lee reported a \$5.3 million

fiscal fourth-quarter profit this year, rebounding from a \$1.3 million loss a year ago, as the number of digital-only subscribers at the company grew 65% to 402,000.

"The Alden proposal grossly undervalues Lee and fails to recognize the strength of our business today, as the fastest-growing digital subscription platform in local media, and our compelling future prospects," Lee Chairman Mary Junck said.

But Ken Doctor, a media analyst who runs a local online journalism startup called Lookout Santa Cruz in California, said Alden isn't likely to abandon its bid to acquire Lee because it believes it can extract profits from the company with the model it has used elsewhere that calls for selling off the real estate the chain owns and drastically cutting costs.

Lee owns the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the Buffalo News and dozens of other newspapers.

Alden has scooped up newspapers across the country through a series of acquisitions in recent years, including the purchase of Tribune Publishing's papers earlier this year. Alden also owns the Denver Post, Orange County Register and Boston Herald.

Lee's stock gained 11% Thursday to close at \$27.70.



BUSINESS

Higher pay, higher costs: Public sees 1 as a problem

Poll finds many consumers focusing on ballooning inflation since pandemic

By Christopher Rugaber and Hannah Fingerhut

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Americans' overall income has accelerated since the pandemic, but so has inflation — and a poll finds that far more people are noticing the higher prices than the pay gains.

Two-thirds say their household costs have risen since the pandemic, compared with only about a quarter who say their incomes have increased, according to a poll by Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. Half say their incomes have stayed the same. Roughly a quarter report that their incomes have dropped.

The fast-rising prices that have been surging through the economy have forced many Americans to change their spending habits. About one-third say, for example, that they're driving less often, and roughly 3 in 10 Americans say they're buying less meat than they usually do.

In the past year, gas prices have jumped

nearly 50%, and the cost of meat is up 15%. Most people say the sharply higher prices for goods and services in recent months have had at least a minor effect on their financial lives, including about 4 in 10 who say the hit has been substantial. The poll confirms that the burden has been especially hard on low-income households.

On Friday, when the government will issue its latest reading on consumer prices, it's expected to report that inflation soared 6.7% in November compared with a year earlier, according to economists surveyed by data provider FactSet. That would top October's 6.2% year-over-year increase and would mark the highest consumer inflation rate in nearly four decades.

The findings in the AP-NORC poll underscore the financial pressures that this year's spike in inflation has imposed on many Americans' finances. Still, as they have since before the pandemic struck in March 2020, a majority say their own finances remain good.

Yet many Americans have soured on the economy in the past year, even though most economic indicators point to a stillsteady recovery, with near-record job openings, solid retail spending and a rebound in manufacturing. Only about one-third say the economy is "good," down from about half who said so in March. That may illustrate why President Joe Biden hasn't benefited politically from positive readings on

The poll, though, finds a sharp partisan split: Only about 1 in 10 Republicans describe the economy as "good;" more than half of Democrats say so. Yet when asked about their own financial situations, people are more positive and less divided along party lines. About two-thirds of Americans say their personal finances are in good shape. Roughly 7 in 10 Democrats and about 6 in 10 Republicans say so.

Analysts generally expect the economy to grow at a brisk 7% annual rate in the final three months of this year, boosting growth for all of 2021 to its fastest calendar-year

The jobless rate has dwindled to 4.2%, from 6.7% a year ago.



Tiffany Knighten said she faced persistent microaggressions in her previous workplace and left to run her own communications agency called Brand Curators. "Everyone is loud and proud to say they let go of what wasn't serving them," she said. AMY LOMBARD/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Jobless and they're loving it

Public displays of resignation: Saving 'I quit' loud and proud as they walk away from work

By Emma Goldberg The New York Times

For Gabby Ianniello, it was the blisters from putting on stilettos every morning for her real estate job, which had called employees back to the office last fall.

For Tiffany Knighten, it was finding out that a teammate's annual salary was more than \$10,000 higher than hers for a role at her level.

They were fed up. They were ready to resign. And they wanted their TikTok followers to know.

"My mental health welcoming me back after leaving c*rporate america," read the caption on Knighten's video posted in September, which featured her wearing a hat that said, "I Hate It Here," and dancing to Ariana Grande's "Thank U, Next."

America's quitting rate — the percentage of workers voluntarily leaving their jobs is historically high, reaching 3% this fall. It is also exceptionally visible.

People are celebrating their resignations

in Instagram reels or "QuitToks." They're turning to the Reddit forum R/antiwork, where subscriptions ballooned this year, to gloat about being free from their 9-to-5 jobs. They're tweeting screenshots of texts to their bosses declaring they have quit.

"People have told me: 'Sis, I quit my job. Let's go get drinks,'" said Knighten, a 28-year-old Black woman. She said she faced persistent microaggressions in her previous workplace and left to run her own communications agency called Brand Curators. "Everyone is loud and proud to say they let go of what wasn't serving them."

There once was a time when broadcasting the decision to quit a job might have seemed unwise, or at least uncouth. Career coaches traditionally advised their clients not to disparage former employers online. Though there was always a subset of workers who quit loudly on principle, recruiters often raised their eyebrows at candidates who'd gone public about negative experiences in their previous roles.

But after more than a year of laboring through a pandemic, protests over racial justice, and all the personal and societal tumult that followed those events, some workers are ready to reject professional

"People are frustrated, exhausted, triggered," said J.T. O'Donnell, founder of the career coaching platform Work It Daily.

If quitters think they can punch back at old bosses without fear of alienating poten-

tial future employers, they might be right. The supply-demand curve of the labor market is working in their favor, and employers are growing less choosy. The share of ZipRecruiter posts that require "no prior experience" has jumped to 22.9% this

year from 12.8% in 2020. The share requiring a bachelor's degree fell to 8.3% from 11.4%. Some parts of the United States are seeing significant gaps between job openings and job seekers -Nebraska, for example, has 69,000 positions unfilled and 19,300 unemployed people. Experiences that might have once hurt a job seeker's prospects, like having taken time off for child care, are being forgiven.

Some career coaches are cringing at the rush to take resignation stories public. Many warned that hiring managers consider posts about former employers to be a red flag. Others noted that the current labor shortage, with the workforce down by about 3 million people, won't be permanent.

"This kind of thing pendulums back and forth," O'Donnell said.

Staffers opt to unionize at 1 Buffalo Starbucks

By Dee-Ann Durbin Associated Press

50-year old coffee giant.

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Starbucks workers have voted to unionize at a store in Buffalo, New York, over the company's objections, pointing the way to a new labor model for the

The National Labor Relations Board said Thursday that workers voted 19-8 in favor of a union at one of three locations. The board is still counting votes for two other stores.

If the labor board certifies the vote, a process expected to take about a week, it would be the first for any Starbucks-owned store in the U.S. to unionize. Starbucks has fought unionization at its stores for decades.

Workers at all three stores began voting by mail last month on whether they wanted to be represented by Workers United, an affiliate of the Service Employees International

The National Labor Relations Board began counting ballots Thursday from union elections held at the stores. Around 111 Starbucks workers from the three stores were eligible to vote by mail starting last month.

Yes" votes could also accelerate unionization efforts at other U.S. Starbucks stores. Already, three more stores in Buffalo and a store in Mesa, Arizona, have filed petitions with the labor board for their own union elections. Those cases are pending. Union backers at the first three Buffalo

stores filed petitions with the labor board in August seeking representation by Workers United, an affiliate of the Service Employees International Union. Those workers say Starbucks' stores had chronic problems such as understaffing and faulty equipment even before the pandemic. They want more input on pay and store operations.

Starbucks insists its 8,000 company-owned U.S. stores function best when it works directly with its employees.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Casinos hit the jackpot in 2021

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. - America's casinos have won more money this year than ever before, according to figures released Thursday from a national gambling trade association.

The American Gaming Association said U.S. casinos have already broken the record for most money won in a single year at \$44.15

Those figures are based on reports through October, as well as on a handful of states that have released results from November. The total surpassed the record set in all of 2019, which was \$43.65 billion.

And with many more states still to report November revenue, as well as all the December reports, that number will climb higher. The figures do not include tribal casinos.

Jobless claims at 52-year low

WASHINGTON - The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits plunged last week to the lowest level in 52 years, more evidence that the U.S. job market is recovering from last year's coronavirus

Unemployment claims dropped by 43.000 to 184,000 last week, the lowest since September 1969, the Labor Department said Thursday.

The four-week moving average, which smooths out week-to-week ups and downs, fell below 219,000, lowest since the pandemic hit the United States hard in

Overall, just under 2 million Americans were collecting traditional unemployment benefits the week that ended Nov. 27.

China Evergrande defaults to uncertain fate

By Alexandra Stevenson and Cao Li The New York Times

HONG KONG - For weeks, global markets have been watching the struggles of China Evergrande, a teetering real estate giant weighed down by \$300 billion or more in obligations that just barely seemed able to make its required payments to global

On Thursday, three days after a deadline passed leaving bondholders with nothing but silence from the company, a major credit ratings firm declared that Evergrande was in default. But instead of resolving questions about the fate of the Chinese behemoth, the announcement only deepened them.

The firm, Fitch Ratings, said in its statement that it had placed the Chinese property developer in its "restricted default" category. The designation means Evergrande had formally defaulted but had not yet entered into any kind of bankruptcy filing, liquidation or other process that would stop its operations.

It is the nature of that next step — bankruptcy, a fire sale or business as usual - that remains unknown. In the United States and many other places, bondholders could push an unwilling company into some form of reorganization, usually in court, and divvy up the pieces. That may still happen.

But Evergrande is faltering in China, where the Communist Party keeps a firm hand on corporate meltdowns to keep them from spreading out of control. With Evergrande, the risk is high: A sudden unwinding of the company could hit the country's financial system or, potentially, the many homeowners in China who have already paid for Evergrande apartments that are vet to be built.

Fitch on Thursday also put Kaisa, another large and distressed developer, into its "restricted default" category after the company failed to pay bondholders \$400 million this week. These defaults are testing a long-held understanding among foreign investors that Beijing would ultimately step in to save its biggest companies. But more recently, authorities have shown greater willingness to let companies fail in order to rein in China's unsustainable debt problem.

Jobless claims

Initial unemployment claims, seasonally adjusted, in millions per week



O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor

BUSINESS



CVS Health Corp. said Thursday it expects to post stronger revenue and profit for the year than previously expected as it expands its health care services at its pharmacies. **NEW YORK**

CVS expects higher revenue as it expands health services

By Stephen Singer Hartford Courant

CVS Health Corp. said Thursday that it anticipates higher revenue and profit this year than previously expected as it expands health care services at its national network of pharmacies.

"This year our businesses have been growing faster than the market," Chief Executive Officer Karen Lynch told industry analysts at the company's investor day in New York City.

CVS, the parent company of health insurer Aetna, said it expects revenue of at least \$290.3 billion, up from previous guidance of between \$286.5 billion and \$290.3 billion. It expects adjusted operating income of at least \$16.6 billion, to increase from \$16.4 to \$16.6 billion.

And it expects revenue next year of between \$304 billion and \$309 billion, up as much as 6.5% from this year, and earnings per share of between \$8.10 and \$8.30 in 2022. That's in line with analysts' expectations of \$8.23 a share, according to Zacks Investment Research.

Shares jumped on CVS'

bullish outlook, up 4.5%, ending the day at \$97.31.

The Woonsocket, Rhode Island, pharmacy and health insurance giant said it will increasingly use its stores to focus on advanced primary care centers, enhanced health hub locations and traditional CVS pharmacies

The health-hub sites are intended to help patients manage chronic conditions and advance nutritional health. CVS also will embed mental health services into its primary care offering.

"Mental health is an unmet need and it is clearly one of the biggest collateral damages of the pandemic," Lynch said.

The chain's retail stores are the "front door" to the CVS brand, and customers and are the "backbone of a health care platform that's national in scope, but local in feel," Chief Financial Officer Shawn Guertin said.

"The successful expansion into care delivery and health care services opens up large addressable markets with multiple avenues for growth and entirely new revenue sources for us and it has the potential to accelerate growth in our foundational business," he said.

CVS expects COVID-19 will have a negative impact in its health care benefits segment next year, but will be significantly less than in 2021, Guertin said.

CVS announced last month that it will close 900 stores and focus more on health care. Lynch said the decision was linked to changes in consumer health, buying needs and shifts in the U.S. population. CVS looked at changing demographics, where Aetna/Caremark pharmacy members are and a financial analysis to reduce store density. It also avoided shutting stores in poor communities, she said.

Citing an "incredibly tight labor market," Lynch said CVS's pledge in August to pay workers at least \$15 an hour by mid-2022 is a "first step and it likely won't be the last step."

Lynch said the rising cost of health care in the U.S. is "untenable for a majority of Americans," with health spending expected to grow an average of 5.5% through

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@ courant.com.

Mad scramble for video game consoles is a cottage industry

By Kellen Browning and Julie Creswell The New York Times

A few seconds before noon on a Monday, Jake Randall began encouraging people watching his livestream on YouTube to start refreshing Walmart's website on their computers.

At his bidding, thousands of people around the country began furiously pounding keys, jostling to get to the front of the retailer's virtual line for this holiday season's hottest gift: a video game

To increase their odds, Randall recommended that the 8,000 viewers on his livestream also get in line through Walmart's app on their phones. As the minutes ticked by, a lucky few sent Randall screenshots of their purchases. Some sent him donations — about \$2,000 in total - as thanks for his help.

Others were unsuccessful. In an hour, all of the consoles were sold out.

Long lines outside retail stores devolving into brawls, desperate shoppers refreshing websites in a bid to outrace the bots and a cottage industry of people like Randall trading tips and making money in the process — that is the state of the video game console market a year after a new generation of widely coveted devices was released during the height of the pandemic.

The Xbox Series X from Microsoft, with a list price of \$499, and the PlayStation 5 from Sony, \$399, arrived as the popularity of gaming was skyrocketing with people stuck indoors, and they have been in short supply ever since.

Now, with the holiday shopping season in full swing, those same consoles remain the must-have gift on many wish lists.

The result is fierce competition, both from other gamers and from



With popular gaming consoles in short supply during the holiday season, some have discovered ways to make money off of their scarcity. LEON EDLER/THE NEW YORK TIMES

people who snag as many devices as they can sometimes using so-called purchase bots to snatch them faster than a human could — and then resell them for two or even three times the purchase price on websites like eBay or Facebook Marketplace.

"I grew up playing video games. Everyone wants to be the video game hero," said Matt Swider, who quit his journalism job last month and now sits in his apartment in New York City. furiously scanning websites to send out alerts on Twitter to his followers whenever retailers have consoles for sale. "The villains in this story are the resellers employing bots both in person and online."

Shortly after PlayStation 5 was first released, Swider, then the U.S. editor-in-chief of TechRadar, a technology reviewing and recommendation website, was frustrated in his own attempts to purchase one. So he began tracking and tweeting when he would find game consoles for sale.

He started getting tips from employees inside retailers like Best Buy and Walmart when a shipment of consoles arrived at individual stores or regional warehouses.

He estimated that he has

helped more than 130,000 people obtain a console this year. In return, he hopes to make money by charging \$5 a month for subscribers to his new Substack newsletter, called "The Shortcut," that will offer recommendations on technology and tips on how to find a console or other electronics. When his followers use his links to buy items on various retailer websites, he can earn a commission, so-called "affiliate fees."

Another retail sleuth, Randall, said he did not make money from commissions but does make money from his livestreams on YouTube, which offer hints on when retailers may release consoles and tricks and tips on how to buy one. Randall, who cannot work a typical job because he has cystic fibrosis, said the streams were about more than just helping frustrated parents or gamers.

"I'm not curing a disease, but with my limitations because of cystic fibrosis, helping people get a video console and be happy is something I can do, and it means a lot to me," said Randall, 30, who streams out of his studio apartment in Nashua, New Hampshire. "When I livestream, I get a lot of love and support from the whole community."

MARKET RUNDOWN







35,880 **Dow Jones industrials** Close: 35,754.69 34.940 Change: -0.06 (flat) 34,000 10 DAYS 37,000 36,000 35,000 34,000 33,000

D	omestic In	idexes	
	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	35,754.69	06	+16.82%
DOW Trans.	16,327.07	+22.27	+30.54%
DOW Util.	931.13	-1.50	+7.69%
NYSE Comp.	16,780.47	-119.45	+15.53%
Nasdaq Comp.	15,517.37	-269.62	+20.40%
S&P 500	4,667.45	-33.76	+24.26%
S&P 400	2,777.32	-40.75	+20.41%
Wilshire 5000	47,636.12	-515.44	+20.73%
Russell 2000	2,220.21	-51.50	+12.42%

Coi	mmoditi	ies	
FUELS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
Crude Oil (bbl)	70.94	72.36	+46.21%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	3.81	3.82	+50.22%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	2.13	2.15	+49.49%
METALS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
Gold (oz)	1,774.60	1,783.40	-6.26%
Silver (oz)	21.97	22.39	-16.55%
(Previous and change figures	reflect curren	t contract.)	

Forei	gn Excl	nange	Money	/ Rate	S
	ForEx in U.S. \$	U.S. \$ in ForEx		CLOSE	PREV. WK.
Britain	1.3210	.7570	Prime rate	3.25	3.25
Canada	.7863	1.2718	3-mo. T-Bill	0.06	0.06
China	.1568	6.3776	6-mo. T-Bill	0.12	0.13
Euro	1.1289	.8858	5-yr T-Note	1.26	1.21
Japan	.008813	113.48	10-yr T-Note	1.48	1.43
Mexico	.047658	20.9831	30-yr T-Bond	1.87	1.75
		Global	Markets		

	Globa	l Marke	ts	
	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	%YTD
Frankfurt	15,639.26	-47.83	30%	+14.00%
London	7,321.26	-15.79	22%	+13.32%
Hong Kong	24,254.86	+257.99	+1.08%	-10.93%
Nikkei	28,725.47	-135.15	47%	+4.67%

Stocks of Local Interest YTD |

			YTD	1			YTD
STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE		%CHG	STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG
AMC Entertainment A (AMC			+1289.6	Magellan Health Inc (MGLN		25	+13.9
AT&T Inc (T)	22.94	23	-20.2	MetLife Inc (MET)	60.88	+.26	+29.7
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	138.10	-7.14	+50.6	Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	333.10	-1.87	+49.8
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	18.14	09	+15.0	Norwegian Cruise Ln (NCLH	21.41	36	-15.8
Amer Virtual Cloud (AVCT)	1.88	+.85	-73.9	Novartis AG (NVS)	80.44	92	-14.8
Amphenol Corp (APH)	83.11	43		Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	304.90	-13.36	+133.6
Apple Inc (AAPL)	174.56	52	+31.6	Ocugen Inc (OCGN)	5.65	38	+208.7
Ardelyx Inc (ARDX)	1.58	+.18	-75.6	Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	86.19	02	+27.6
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	49.19	-1.78	+8.2	Palantir Technol (PLTR)	19.21	61	-18.4
Bank of America (BAC)	44.49	+.33 15	+46.8 -8.7	Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)	17.68	01	+36.7
Barnes Group (B)	46.29	-39.59		Pfizer Inc (PFE)	52.08	+.68	+41.5
Booking Holdings (BKNG) Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	2267.61 57.54	-39.59	+1.8 -7.2	Pioneer Power Solu (PPSI)	9.56	-1.23	+147.0
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	97.31	+4.21	+42.5	Pitney Bowes (PBI)	6.77	18	+9.9
Carnival Corp (CCL)	19.19	33	-11.4	Prudential Fncl (PRU)	106.53	+.82	+36.5
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	55.99	45	+48.4	Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	63.74	17	+9.3
Charter Communic (CHTR)	611.97	-30.10	-7.5	Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	86.16	34	+20.5
Cigna Corp (CI)	211.30	+2.99	+1.5	Rogers Corp (ROG)	271.80	34 46	+75.0
Citigroup (C)	62.14	32	+.8	SS&C Technlogies (SSNC)	77.85	46	+7.0
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	47.81	-1.13	-8.8				
Disney (DIS)	152.94	40	-15.6	Sirius XM Hldgs Inc (SIRI)	6.16	05	-3.3
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	126.18	-2.73	+38.0	Snap Inc A (SNAP)	52.36	-1.06	+4.6
Energy Transfer L.P. (ET)	8.57	+.05	+38.7	SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	15.66	-1.28	-30.9
Ensysce Biosciences (ENSC)	4.97	+1.99	-65.5	Sthwstn Energy (SWN)	5.33	+.03	+78.9
Ethan Allen (ETD)	24.92	13	+23.3	Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)		22	+7.5
Eversource Energy (ES)	87.53	+.18	+1.2	Starwood Prop Trust (STWD		+.02	+28.5
Exela Technologies (XELA)	1.22	04	-2.0	Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.60	02	+25.9
Ford Motor (F)	19.57	24	+122.6	Terex Corp (TEX)	45.71	56	+31.0
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	7.01	60	-37.2	Tesla Inc (TSLA)	1003.80	-65.16	+42.2
Gen Dynamics (GD)	201.93	+1.05	+35.7	Tonix Pharma (TNXP)	.40	05	-40.6
Gen Electric (GE)	97.83	45	+13.5	Travelers Cos (TRV)	153.49	+.69	+9.3
Grab Holdings Ltd A (GRAB)		81	-7.7	Twitter Inc (TWTR)	46.46	+.74	-14.2
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	68.23	28	+39.3	Uber Technologies (UBER)	37.54	-1.27	-26.4
Honeywell Intl (HON)	206.00	+1.35	-3.1	United Rentals (URI)	356.53	43	+53.7
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	16.40	07	+23.9	UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	473.32	+4.46	+35.0
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	23.25	19	+37.2	Verizon Comm (VZ)	50.16	33	-14.6
InsigniaSy (ISIG)	23.50 4.95	+4.39 +2.26	+299.7 +4.2	Virtus Invest (VRTS)	294.57	-6.02	+35.7
Inspira Tech Oxy BHN (IINN) Intel Corp (INTC)	50.48	-1.27	+4.2	Voya Financial (VOYA)	63.25	08	+7.5
Kaman (KAMN)	41.28	04	-27.7	Webster Financial (WBS)	54.18	03	+28.5
Keycorp (KEY)	22.99	11	+40.1	White Mtns Insur (WTM)	992.00	-22.90	9
Kinross Gold (KGC)	5.27	62	-28.2	World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	48.71	-1.05	+1.4
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	68.23	+.30	+35.6	XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	79.33	+.62	+14.4
Lucid Group Inc (LCID)	36.52	-8.20	+36.1	Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	21.06	08	-9.2
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	42.21	67	+34.0	Zynga Inc (ZNGA)	6.34	19	-35.8
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PINION

Everybody wants to be your email buddy



People, have you been barraged by emails from candidates asking for donations? If so, do you feel popular or besieged?

"I'm an election lawyer," said Daniel Weiner, "and on Thanksgiving my relatives kept asking: Why am I getting these emails and can you do something about it?"

Weiner, deputy director of the Brennan Center's Election Reform Program, would certainly be a good person to ask, and he'll tell you one option is to click the little — some cynics would say itty-bitty — unsubscribe note on each missive.

Another is to just suck it up and give something. If you want candidates to be responsive to ordinary voters rather than wealthy special interest donors, there's got to be some way to wring cash out of normal, nonrich Americans. "Politics costs money. If you care about politics, and have the means, consider making small donations," Weiner advised.

There are many, many folks out there attempting to make a (large) living by compiling and selling monster mailing lists. As a result, some requests for donations may seem to come from far afield. "Big news check out our new ad," says an email I got, hoping I'd send money to Erick Allen, a candidate for lieutenant governor of Geor-

Still, a lot of this email exhaustion is simply the fault of — Yes! You guessed it! — Donald

I got more than 50 emails from Democrats seeking campaign cash right after Thanksgiving, but that paled beside the flood from Trump, who seems intent on pitching every



Stickers and other items at a ballot collection site in Oakland, California. THE NEW YORK TIMES

person in America several times a day.

"President Trump's Exclusive Wine Glasses are running extremely low on stock, and we saw you haven't claimed your pair yet," warned an email this week. "There are only A COUPLE of Trump Wine Glasses left, and our team can only hold YOURS for the next 15 minutes."

How many of you believe the team is really low on Trump wineglasses? Well, if you do, act fast, "contribute \$70 or MORE right away" and you'll get your very own set.

The wineglasses, by the way, actually look like something used to provide water for members of a charter revision committee during a long public hearing.

And if you hit the contribution button, you'll see the really important thing — a set of prechecked boxes asking that your \$70-or-more become "a monthly recurring

Watch out for anything that authorizes recurring donations. It's like those robocalls trying to get you to press 1 for further information. Never press 1! Never authorize recurring donations! OK, unless you're really in love with one particular politician, have complete confidence he or she won't break your heart over the next 11 months, and don't want to be bothered recommitting on a regu-

Not something you need to consider when it comes to Trump making sneaky attempts to get a recurring donation commitment in return for terrible thank-you gifts. "For a short time, when you make a contribution of \$75, we'll send you one of our ICONIC Trump Save America Christmas Ornaments FOR FREE," said one email this week. Now, the ornament is not the absolute worst holiday item on Trump's list. (Have you seen the Christmas stocking with his face on it?) But do you find it strange that he wants \$75 for that "FREE" decoration?

The emailers like to toss in personal details, just to show that we're pals. I'd gotten used to being addressed as "Friend," but more and more seem to know my name.

A recent letter to "Gail" from the Democratic National Committee explained how important it was that I be "one of 16 more supporters from Flushing to contribute \$7 to ensure Democrats have the resources they need to compete and win everywhere."

The only problem, as you may have guessed, is that I don't live in Flushing.

Right now everybody wants to help you prepare for holiday giving. You may have gotten a gift guide from the "Official Democratic Store" that features, inevitably, a presidential "Cup o' Joe" coffee mug, as well as a "Dogs for Democrats" collar. Sorry to say the Joe Biden ice cream scoop was already

Rafts of nonpresidential candidates are mailing too. Unlike Trump and Biden, they're probably people you've never heard of. But if you make a donation, you will most definitely hear from them again.

And from a lot of other folks. Give once and your name is probably going to wind up on donor lists that are compiled, traded and sold all over the political world.

"Once you get on that list it's almost impossible to get off," said Rick Hasen, a professor at the University of California, Irvine, School of Law.

So what to do? Well, you can treat the emails like spam, or hit the unsubscribe option. Can't promise they won't return in some new form, but it's a start.

Or you can just jump into the fray, pick some candidates you like and respond to their emails with donations. Active citizens make for better politics and being a reasonable person who takes part helps beat back all the lunatics who seem to be thinking of nothing but bombarding you with email

around the clock. No offense, Donald.

Collins is a columnist for The New York

Can media prevent Trump's return?



Ross Douthat

There is a school of thought that holds that if Donald Trump sweeps back into power in 2024, or else loses narrowly but then plunges the United States into the kind of constitutional crisis he sought in 2020, the officially nonpartisan news media will have been an accessory to Trumpism. It will have failed to adequately emphasize Trump's threat to American democracy, chosen a disastrous evenhandedness over moral clarity and covered President Joe Biden (or perhaps Vice President Kamala Harris) like a normal politician instead of the republic's last best hope.

This view, that media "neutrality" has a tacit pro-Trump tilt, is associated with prominent press critics like Jay Rosen of New York University and The Washington Post's Margaret Sullivan, and it recently found data-driven expression in a column by the Post's Dana Milbank. In a study "using algorithms that give weight to certain adjectives based on their placement in the story," Milbank reported that after a honeymoon, Biden's media coverage has lately been as negative, or even more negative, than Trump's coverage through most of 2020. Given the perils of a Trump resurgence, Milbank warned, this negativity means that "my colleagues in the media are serving as accessories to the murder of democracy."

I think this point of view is very wrong. I think it's this view of the press's role that actually empowers demagogues, feeds polarization and makes crises in our system much more likely.

To understand why, let's look at a case study where, at one level, the people emphasizing the press's obligation to defend democracy have a point. This would be the Georgia Republican primary for governor, which will pit David Perdue, a former senator who lost his reelection bid in a 2021 runoff, against Brian Kemp, the conservative incumbent who is famously hated by Trump.

That hatred is the only reason this primary matchup exists: He is angry at Kemp for fulfilling his obligations as Georgia's governor instead of going along with the "Stop the Steal" charade, he's eager to see the incumbent beaten and he's hoping that either Perdue or Vernon Jones, a more overtly MAGA-ish candidate, can do the

As a result, the Georgia governor's primary will effectively be a referendum not just on Trump's general power in the GOP but also on his specific ability to bully Republican elected officials in the event of a contested election. And reporters have an obligation to cover the campaign with that reality in mind, to stress the reasons this matchup is happening and its dangerous implications for how Republican officials might respond to a future attempt to overturn a presidential vote.

But now comes the question: Is that the only thing that a responsible press is allowed to report during the campaign? Suppose, for instance, that midway through the race, some huge scandal erupts, involving obvious corruption that implicates Kemp. Should Georgia journal-



Donald Trump speaks at the Jan. 6 rally near the White House, shortly before supporters stormed the U.S. Capitol. YURI GRIPAS/ABACA PRESS

ists decline to cover it because a Kemp loss would empower anti-democratic forces? Or suppose the economy in Georgia tanks just before the primary or COVID cases surge. Should civic-minded reporters highlight those stories, knowing that they may help Perdue win, or should they bury them, because democracy itself is in the balance?

Or suppose a woman comes forward with an allegation of harassment against Perdue that doesn't meet the normal standards for publication. Should journalists run with it anyway, on the theory that it would be good for American democracy if Perdue goes the way of Roy Moore, and that they can always correct the record later if the story falls apart?

You can guess my answers to these questions. They are principled answers, reflecting a journalistic obligation to the truth that cannot be set aside for the sake of certain political results, however desirable for democracy those results may seem.

But they are also pragmatic answers because a journalism that conspicuously shades the truth or tries to hide self-evident realities for the sake of some higher cause will inevitably lose the trust of some of the people it's trying to steer away from

I think this has happened already. There were ways in which the national news media helped Trump in his path through the Republican primaries in 2016, by giving him constant celebrity-level hype at every other candidate's expense. But from his shocking November victory onward, much of the press adopted exactly the self-understanding that its critics are still urging as the Only Way to Stop Trump — positioning itself as the guardian of democracy, a moral arbiter rather than a neutral referee, determined to make Trump's abnormal qualities and authoritarian tendencies the central story of his presidency.

The results of this mindset, unfortu-

nately, included a lot of not particularly great journalism. The emergency mentality conflated Trumpian sordidness with something world-historical and treasonous, as in the overwrought Russia coverage seeded by the Steele dossier. It turned figures peripheral to national politics, from Nick Sandmann to Kyle Rittenhouse, into temporary avatars of incipient fascism. It invented anti-Trump paladins, from Michael Avenatti to Andrew Cuomo, who turned out to embody their own sort of moral turpitude. And it instilled an industrywide fear, palpable throughout the 2020 election, of any kind of coverage that might give too much aid and comfort to Trumpism - whether it touched on the summertime riots or Hunter Biden's business dealings

Now you could argue that at least this mindset achieved practical success, since Trump did lose in 2020. But he didn't lose overwhelmingly, he gained voters in places the establishment did not expect, and he was able to turn media hostility to his advantage in his quest to keep control of his party, even in defeat. Meanwhile, the public's trust in the national press declined during the Trump era and became radically more polarized, with Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents maintaining a certain degree of confidence in the media and Republicans and Republican-leaning independents going very much the other way.

This points to the essential problem with the idea that just a little less media neutrality, a little more overt alarmism, would put Trumpism in its place. You can't suppress a populist insurgency just by rallying the establishment if suspicion of the establishment is precisely what's generating support for populism in the first place. Instead, you need to tell the truth about populism's dangers while convincing skeptical readers that you can be trusted to

describe reality in full.

Which brings us to Joe Biden's press coverage. I have a lot of doubts about the Milbank negativity algorithms, both because of the methodological problems identified by analysts like Nate Silver and also because, as a newsreader, my sense is that Trump's negative coverage reflected more stalwart opposition while in Biden's case the negativity often coexists with implicit sympathy. But still, there's no question that the current administration's coverage has been pretty grim of late.

It's turned grim for reasons that an objective and serious press corps would need to acknowledge in order to have any credibility at all. Piece by piece, you can critique the media's handling of the past few months, but here's the overall picture: A president who ran on restoring normalcy is dealing with a pandemic that stubbornly refuses to depart, rising inflation that his own White House didn't predict, a border-crossing crisis that was likewise unanticipated, increasing military bellicosity from our major adversaries, stubbornly high homicide rates in liberal cities, a party that just lost a critical gubernatorial race and a stalled legislative agenda.

Can some of these challenges recede and Biden's situation improve? No doubt. But a news media charged with describing reality would accomplish absolutely nothing for the country if it tried to bury all these problems under headlines that were always and only about Trump.

Far wiser, instead, to treat negative coverage as an example of the press living up to its primary mission, the accurate description of reality — which is still the place where the Biden administration and liberalism need a better strategy if they hope to keep the country on their side.

Douthat is a columnist for The New York





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PUBLIC NOTICES

Legal Notice Town of Canton
Planning & Zoning Commission (PZ
Regular Virtual Meeting
December 15, 2021 at 7:00 pm

Hartford

People can hear the meeting and make comments/questions by calling the following

Call In: + 1 312 626 6799 Webinar ID: 829 8543 0761 Passcode: 609342 Or view the meeting by using the following

https://us02web.zoom.us/i/829854 30761?pwd=Qm1xL2RmeTd00ExveitMSi9x Passcode: gtSqq6

The Canton PZC will hold a public hearing as part of a regular virtual meeting on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., for the following application:

File 475; Apin 2125; 9 and 15 Albany Turnpike; Assessor Map 32 and 36; Parcel 1010009 and 1010015; Zone: EGDVD; Special Permit, Section 7.5.D.3.5.b., earthwork and grading over 2.000 cubic yards in connection with and clearly essential to other; Special Permit, Section 7.5.E.2., operation of earth material processing, screening or crushing equipment; and Section 7.6., soil erosion and sediment control; proposed grading activities to provide an opportunity to create a gravel access road to the rear of the property line in the future; 9-15 Albany Turnpike, LLC, applicant/owner

Dated at Canton, Connecticut, this 29th day of November 2021

Jonathan Thiesse, Chairman Philip Pane, Secretary 12/10/21 and 12/11/21 7103551

State of Connecticut
Department of Children and Families

The Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) is accepting applications for Quality Parenting Centers. Current research shows that consistent and frequent visitasnows that consistent and frequent visita-tion between parents and their children in out-of-home care can reduce trauma for children and is crucial to strengthening and maintaining family relationships. It is also important for parent-child attachments and can decrease the sense of abandonment that children often experience when they are removed from their home and placed in are removed from their nome and placed in out-of-home care. Family visitation is linked to positive outcomes, including improved child well-being, less time in out-of-home care, and faster reunification (when safety is established and in the best interest of is established and in the best interest of the child). The non-mandatory bidders' conference is scheduled to be held virtually on Friday, December 17, 2021 at 9 am. Deadline for submission of proposals is Tuesday January 28, 2022 at 3:00 PM, local time at DCF Central Office in Hartford. The electronic copy of the proposal must be emailed to the Official Agency Contact for this procurement. The Request for Proposals is available in electronic format on the State Contracting Portal at: https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTSource/CTSource and on the Department's website at: https://portal.ct.gov/DCF/Contract-Management/Home or from the Department's Official Contact, Stacie Albert via e-mail at DCF. Fiscalcontracts@ct.gov.

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Connecticut

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE THE Undersigned hereby advertises the sale of liened goods; Tuesday the 28th day of December, 2021 at 11:00 AM, on that day will conduct a sale with bidding to take place on lockerfox.com, FOR CASH ONLY, the contents of spaces at Storage Rentals of America, 1065 Voluntown Rd, Griswold, CT, 06351: McDonough, Colleen with 1204 aset beveeld items: Storage unit 1204 asst, household items; Storage Rentals of America, 1280 Hopmeadow, Simsbury, CT, 06070: Dublanica, Kathy V. unit 0265 asst. household items, Pare, Clinton unit 0540 asst. household items; Clinton unit 0540 asst. household items; Storage Rentals of America, 123R West St, Simsbury, CT, 06070 Lindstrom, Brooke unit 441A asst. household items; Storage Rentals of America, 2 Commerce Dr, Columbia, CT, 06237: Distefano, Jacob unit 048 asst. household items; Storage Rentals of America, 610 Pigeon Hill Rd, Bloomfield, CT, 06002: MCKENNA-GOODWIN, ASHLEY unit B62 asst. household items; Storage Rentals of America, 497 North St, Windso Rentals of America, 497 North St, Windsor Locks, CT, 06096: Tyman, Stephanie unit A28 asst. household items. Rubert, Alexis J. unit C2155 asst. household items. McAllister, David Colli unit A25 asst. household items. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated

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Connecticut

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction that a space studge will inform a public actual to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated: 576 Danbury Road, New Milford, CT, 06776, 12/17/2021 at 10:00 AM.

Antonio Vassiliadis, Unit #365 containing household items, clothing, bicycle Geams T. Gill, Unit #129 containing household items, dresser, tv Kathy Barreira, Unit #186 containing house-

Richard Duane Evans, Unit #168 containing bed, mattress, table, refrigerator, bags, chairs, power tools, tool box The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the

above referenced facility in order to complete

the transaction. Extra Space Storage may

refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property 12/5, 12/10/2021 7100039 The City of Hartford Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Virtual Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 6 p.m. to hear the following public hearing items:

a. 100 Pearl St - Special Permit for proposed signage at 100 Pearl Street, in the DT-3, Downtown District, pursuant to Section 8.1.3, Section 8.2, Section 8.3, and Section 8.1.3, Section 8.2, Section 8.3, and Section 8.3, and Section 8.3, and Section 8.3, and Section 8.3, Secti

8.4 of the Zoning Regulations. Owner: SGS Pearl, LLC; Applicant: Sign Pro Inc. c/o Tracy Text Amendment – Proposed Changes Section 3.3.5.A(2)(b) of the Zoning Regulations to strike the subsection which requires no barber shop, salon or spa to be located within 1,500 feet of another barber shop, salon, or spa. Applicant: Matthew

c. 55 Elm – Zone Map Amendment from MX-2 to MX-2 with the Campus Overlay per Section 1.3.5.A. Owner & Applicant: **55 Elm** St, LLC c/o Matthew Edvardsen, Anticipated Public Hearing Date: December 14, 2021.

Meeting information and documents are available online: https://www.moetinginfavailable online: https://www.meetinginfo. org/meetings/1088. Documents are available for inspection by appointment at 260 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103. 12/3/21, 12/10/21 7097811

Legal Notice Request for Letters of Interest Task Order Historic and Archaeological Support Services

Connecticut Department The Connecticut Department of fransportation (Department) is seeking to engage four (4) consulting firms to provide historic documentation and archaeological investigations for transportation projects in accordance with State and Federal regula-tions. More detailed information regarding this assignment can be found at: https:// portal.ct.gov/DOT/Consultant-Selection/formation

Connecticut Department of Transportation An Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action 12/10/21 71-3828

Notice of Tentative Determination to Approve an Application for Diversion of Water Permit and Notice of Intent to Waive Public Hearing Applicant(s): Kensington Fire District and City of New Britain Water Department Application No.: 202108839 City /Town

The Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") hereby gives notice that a tentative determination has been reached to approve the following application to modify a permit to divert the waters of the state. The Commissioner also intends phedical to many a permit of values of waters of the state. In a commission and interior are interior general Statutes (CGS), provided that a hearing may be held if the Commissioner determines that the public interest will best be served thereby, or shall hold a hearing upon receipt of a

Application Number:

Applicant Contact Information

ant statute(s)/regulation

Project Location

Applicant's Name and Address:

202108839 (Modification of DIVC-201704368GP) Kensington Fire District 947 Farmington Ave Kensington, CT 06037

> City of New Britain Water Department w Britain, CT 06051

ray.esponda@newbritainct.go

Section 22a-365 through 22a-378 CGS

ncrease in transfer of water from 1.0 MGD to 1.61 MGD from New Britain Water Departmen

Shuttle Meadow Reservoir, Whigville Reservoir, Wasel Reservoir, Wolcott Reservoir, Harts Ponds, White Bridge Surface Supply, White Bridge Wellfields

COMMISSIONER'S FINDINGS/REGULATORY CONDITIONS

The proposed activity includes the following: Transfer a maximum of 1.61 million gallons per day (mgd) from the City of New Britain Water Department to Kensington Fire District. The proposed activity will affect Shuttle Meadow Reservoir, Whigville Reservoir, Wasel Reservoir, Wolcott Reservoir, Harts Ponds, White Bridge Surface Supply, and White Bridge Wellfields.

Pursuant to Section 22a-371 of the CGS, the Department has found that the application is complete and has determined that the proposed diversion 1) is necessary, 2) will not significantly affect long-range water resources management, and 3) will not impair proper management and use of the water resources of the State. Accordingly, the Commissioner hereby publishes this notice of intent to waive the requirement for a public hearing, provided if the Commissioner receives a petition requesting a hearing signed by twenty five (25) persons on or before the deadline for receipt of written comments specified at the end of this notice, a hearing will be held. Notice of any hearing will be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the area where the proposed diversion will take place or have effect.

area where the proposed diversion will take place or have effect.

INFORMATION REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT
This application has been assigned no. 202108839. Please use this number when corresponding with DEEP regarding this application. Interested persons may obtain copies of the application from the applicant at the above address. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 virus pandemic, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection located at 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT is closed to the public until further notice. However, electronic copies of the application and supporting documentation can be provided to interested persons via email. Any such requests for electronic documents may be directed to Melissa Czarnowski of the Water Planning and Management Division at 860-424-3091 or melissa.m.czarnowski@ct.gov.

Before making a final decision on this application, the Commissioner shall consider written comments on the application from interested persons. Written comments on the application should be directed to Melissa Czarnowski via electronic mail to: melissa.m.czarnowski@ct.gov no later than thirty (30) days from the publication date of this notice. Written comments may also be submitted in paper form to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection located at 79 Elm Street, Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse Hartford, CT. In this submittal please identify the name of the staff assigned to the application, the permit application number and your phone number and/or email address to facilitate responses to your comments. Due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic and social distancing measures implemented by DEEP staff, there could be delays in the response to your comments. You may contact the staff assence indexified to the application number and your phone number and your comments. You may contact the staff assence indexified to the application number and your phone number and your comments. You may contact the staff assence indexified to the application number and your phone number and your protection and soci by DEEP staff, there could be delays in the response to your comments. You may contact the staff person identified in this notice with any questions you may have.

PETITIONS FOR HEARING PETITIONS FOR HEARING
The Commissioner may conduct a public hearing if the Commissioner determines that the public interest will best be served thereby, or shall hold a hearing upon receipt of a petition signed by at least twenty-five persons. Petitions for a hearing shall be submitted within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this public notice and should include the application number noted above and also identify a contact person to receive notifications. Petitions should also identify a posses when in enthering the present in direction proceedings the application. number noted above and also identify a contact person to receive notinications. Petitions should also identify a person who is authorized to engage in discussions regarding the application and, if resolution is reached, withdraw the petition. In order to facilitate the filing of requests for hearing during the COVID-19 emergency and consistent with the Department's Temporary Directive, the Office of Adjudications will accept electronically-filed petitions in addition to petitions submitted by mail. Petitions with required signatures may be filed by email to: deep, adjudications@ct.gov or mailed to the DEEP Office of Adjudications, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106. Within thirty (30) days of filing the petition, original petitions that were filed electronically must be also be mailed to the Office at the above-noted address. If the original petition exists only in electronic format or signatures were produced using a computer or treewitter the exists only in electronic format or signatures were produced using a computer or typewriter, the petition must be submitted with a statement bearing the wet-ink signature of the petitioner that the petition is only available in that format and has been submitted to satisfy the requirement that an original petition be filed. If a hearing is held, timely notice of such hearing will be published in a newspaper of general circulation and posted on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/ deep. Additional information is located at www.ct.gov/deep/adjudications.

Graham J. Stevens Bureau Chief

Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact melissa.m.czarnowski@ct.gov if you are seeking a communication aid or service, have limited proficiency in English, or require some other accommodation. If you wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint, please contact the DEEP Office of Diversity and Equity at (860) 418-5910 or via email at deep.accommodations@ct.gov. In order to facilitate efforts to provide an accommodation, please request all accommodations as soon as possible following notice of any agency hearing, meeting, program or event. 12/10/2021 7102645

Connecticut

In accordance with the provisions of State Law, there being due and unpaid charges of which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner and/or manager's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Life Storage location(s) listed below 1055 West Main Street, New Britain, CT 06053, 860-215-8838.

630 Kishalee Allen Off Furn/Mach/Fquin.

661 Charles A Featherstone Car Parts 526 AnnMarie Panapada Off Furn/Mach/

210 Romeo Rodriguez Hsld gds/Furn 273 Dionne M Brown Hsld gds/Furn 301 Lorraine Medina Hsld gds/Furn, Tools/ Applnces, Camping Gear 475 Real Beaulieu Hsld gds/Furn, Tools/ Applnces, files, personal items 590 Nigel M Nelson Jr. Hsld gds/Furn, Tools/

679 Tahlor Lytton Hsld gds/Furn 714 Michael D Olmstead Hsld gds/Furn, Tools/Applnces
1044 Saisha Stephanie Clemente Escalera

1149 Natalie Garcia Hsld gds/Furn 1195 Krishia Marelis Malpica-Lugo Hsld

1149 Natalle Gardia Histig Gay-run
1195 Krishia Marelis Malpica-Lugo Hsld
gds/Furn
And, due notice having been given, to the
owner of said property and all parties
know to claim an interest therein, and the
specified in such notice for payment of such
having expired, the goods will be sold to the
highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at
a public auction to be held online at www.
storagetreasures.com, which will end on
Monday, December 27, 2021 at 10:00 AM.
Any question regarding the above information
are to be addressed to the manager of this
facility at the phone number shown above.
12/8/21 & 12/10/21 7097925

ORDER OF NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated:

ExtraSpace Storage, 56 Pameacha Ave, Middletown,Ct 06457 860-575-7610

Pecember 15 2021 at 11 100 AM

Brandon Best Unit# 2029 Household items

December 15,2021 at 11:00 AM

Chontra Williams

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

12/4, 12/10/2021 7099364

BOROUGH OF FENWICK REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Notice is hereby given that the Borough of Fenwick will receive sealed qualifications statements until 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 30, 2021 from engineering consulting firms for professional engineering services related to coastal resiliency. The primary scope of work will include identification, application and procurement of public/private funds for Borough use on resiliency projects. The secondary scope will include design, grant administration, and construction oversight of resiliency projects. A Request for Qualifications, including scope of work, consulting requirements, and submission instructions may be found on the Borough of Fenwick web site at www fenwicknews.com.

Newton Brainard, Warden 12/10/21 7101924

WARNING DISTRICT MEETING - PUBLIC HEARING REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 13 TOWNS OF DURHAM AND MIDDLEFIELD December 16, 2021

The electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Towns of Durham and Middlefield (the "Member Towns") are hereby warned that a District Meeting of Regional School District No. 13 (the "District") will be School District No. 13 (the "District") will held at the Coginchaug Regional High School Auditorium, 135 Pickett Lane, Durham, Connecticut, on Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 7:00 PM. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the following recommendation of the District Board of Education:

1 That \$7.500,000 be appropriated for That \$7,500,000 be appropriated for renovations and improvements to John Lyman Elementary School in Middlefield (the "Project"). The appropriation may be expended for design, construction, renovation and installation costs, engineering and professional fees, materials, equipment, purchase costs, legal fees, financing costs, interest expense on temporary borrowings, and other costs related to the Project. The appropriation shall include any federal, state or other grants-in-aid received for the Project. The Regional School District 13 Building Committee (the "Building Committee"), established by the District Board of Education as the building committee for the Project, shall be authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the Project, and may reduce or modify the scope of the Project as desirable, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the Project as so reduced or modified. The District anticipates receiving grants from the State of Connecticut for a portion of the eligible costs of the Project to defray in part the appropriation.
 That \$7.500,000 of bonds, notes or

2. That \$7,500,000 of bonds, notes or temporary notes of the District be authorized to finance the appropriation. The amount of the bonds authorized shall be reduced by the amount of any grants received by the District for the Project.

3. That the Chair of the District Board of Education and the District Treasurer, be authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information.

4. That the Building Committee be authorized to contract with architects, engineers, contractors and others in the name and on behalf of the District with respect to the Project, to approve design and construction expenditures for the Project, and to exercise such others powers as are necessary or such others powers as are necessary or appropriate to complete the Project.

bonds, notes or temporary notes shall be submitted to referendum vote by the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meet-ings of the Member Towns of the District.

Dated at Durham, Connecticut this 8th day of December, 2021.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 13

TOWN OF ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT nformation Technology Department REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Siemens VoIP Managed Services December 10, 2021

Sealed responses for the services named sealed responses for the services named above will be received at the office of the Director of Finance until 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 21, 2021. Thereafter, proposals will be opened in public and read aloud or opened and read aloud pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Governor's Executive Orders. Responses received after this date and time will not be accorded. and time will not be accepted.

Specifications and response documents may be obtained from the Information Technology Department, through email at ithelp@enfield.org or the Town's website, www.enfield-ct.gov.

The Town of Enfield reserves the right to accept or reject any, all, or any part of responses, to waive formalities or informalities, and to make an award that is deemed to be in the best interests of the Town.

John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance 12/10/2021 7103166

In accordance with the provisions of State law, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner and/or manager's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Life Storage location(s) listed below. 1395 South Street Suffield, CT 06078 860-668-6153

Space No. A134 Customer Name: Robert Hayes Inventory: Hsld gds/furn

questions regarding the above information are to be addressed to the manager of this facility at the phone number shown above. 12/8/21, 12/10/21 7099487

LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTION TOWN OF SIMSBURY ZONING COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Commission of the Town of Simsbury took the following action(s) at its regular meeting held on Monday, December 6, 2021, for the Simsbury Town Offices, 93 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, Connecticut via Zoom Meeting ID: 257 429 7243 1. Approved with Conditions - Application# 21-23 – of the Iron Horse LLC and Co-Owner of Freedom Property LLC, Applicant; Luke Florian Agent; application for a site plan amendment pursuant to 4.2 of the Simsbury Center Code for the conversion of a motel

to an apartment complex located at 969 Hopmeadow Street (Assessor's Map H08, Block 116 Lot 041). 2. Approved with Conditions - Application #21-26 of the Simsbury Zoning Commission, Applicant; Town of Simsbury, Agent; Special Exception pursuant to section 6.3 for development in the floodplain related to parking lot improvements, ADA accessory improvements, and associated drainage improvements for the property located at 22 fron Horse Blud (Assessor's Map H09, Block 226 Lot 003A). Zone FP. New plans provided.

A copy of the above is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, Connecticut for public inspection. David Ryan, Chairman 12/10/21 7102996

State of Connecticut INVITATION TO SUBMIT LEASE PROPOSAL

The State of Connecticut, Department of Ine state of Connecticut, Department of Administrative Services, will accept lease proposals/site offerings from property owners or their representative(s) through 3 p.m. December 17, 2021, to lease up to 6,380 net usable square feet of office space, with on-site, reserved, paved and lighted parking for Twenty-Five (25) cars with access to EV for Twenty-Five (25) cars with access to EV charging station(s) in Hartford, for use and occupancy by the Judicial Department (JUD) can a term of five (5) years. Offers from option holders cannot be considered. The premises must be accessible to individuals with disabilities and public transportation. Preference will be given to proponents offering purchase, renewal options and/or termination clauses.

Proposals should be addressed exclusively

Department of Administrative Services Leasing and Property Transfer 450 Columbus Boulevard Hartford, CT

Attention: Statewide Leasing and Property Suite 1402 Solicitation Number: LP 21-17

Emailed to Thomas.Pysh@ct.gov

Emailed to Thomas.Pysh@ct.gov

Proposals must be submitted using the State of Connecticut "Proposal to Lease Space" form together with a "Notice of Listing Agreement", if applicable. Lease proposal information and related forms may be obtained using "CT Source" link at https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTSource/BidBoard or by calling (860) 916.0859. The submission of a proposal shall not bind the State of Connecticut, nor does it constitute a competitive bid. The Department of Administrative Services reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. Faxed proposals will not be accepted. If you are awarded the subject lease and the lease has a value of \$50,000 or more, you will be required to sign and submit, at the time of lease execution, a certification, certifying that you, your company, and specified other individuals have given no gifts to DAS personnel and other individuals set forth in the certification. See http://portal.ct.gov/DAS/Leasing-and-Property-Transfer/Lease-Space-to-the-State/Documents, click on Affidavits, click on Contractor/Consultant Certification or see Conn. Gen. Stat. §4-252(d), any bidder, proposer, or person who responded to a request for qualifications for a contract with a value of \$50,000 or more who does not make this certification shall be disqualified. BE ADVISED, pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §9-612, any person submitting a Proposal to Lease Space shall be deemed a Prospective State Contractor and thereby subject to the prohibition on gifts and campaign contributions contained in Section 9-612.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CONNECTICUT PORT AUTHORITY

Tuesday December 14, 2021 5:30 PM. Location: In response to concerns regard-ing the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), and in the interest of the safety

and well-being of participants, this meeting will be held remotely by conference call.

Number: 681-999-0297 PIN: 303243# Pursuant to Section 15-31a(n) of the Genera Statutes of Connecticut, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the general public that the BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CONNECTICUT PORT AUTHORITY will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on DECEMBER 14, 2021, commencing at 5:30

P.M., to be held remotely via teleconference,

accessible using the dial-in information above, for the purpose of evaluating the adequacy of the State's maritime policies, facilities and support for maritime commerce

and industry. 12/7 - 12/14/2021 7097064 Car Reviews

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And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at a public auction to be held online at www.StorageTreasures.com, which will end on Monday 12/27/21 at 10am. Any

OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Bloomfield Yvonne E. Mazur Gwendolyn W. Spencer **Bristol** Isabel Roy **East Hartford** Sharon L. Passaro

Farmington Glenn P. Campagna Glastonbury Yvonne E. Mazur Isabel Roy

Granby

Hartford Glenn P. Campagna Deon Foster Roger W. Gibbs Mary A. Wirth

Mary A. Wirth

Hebron Darlene M. Crowley Manchester Marion Booth

Marlborough Darlene M. Crowley **New Britain** Robert H. Corr, III William J. Niedbala Other Town in CT Marion Booth **South Windsor** Sharon L. Passaro Southington Robert H. Corr, III Suffield Joyce O'Brien **West Hartford** Gwendolyn W. Spencer Wethersfield Betty M. Nye Windsor Locks Marvann Britschock **OUT OF STATE**

Glenn P. Campagna

Atlanta, GA

Roger W. Gibbs

Clifton Park, NY

Deon Foster Staten Island, NY

Denotes name listing only. Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Corr III, Robert H.



Robert H. Corr III, 74, of Britain, husband of Maureen (Burns) Corr, passed away Wednesday (December 8, 2021) at his home. A native and lifelong New Britain resident, son of the late Robert Corr, Jr. and Jean Talbot Corr, he was a 1965 graduate of Pulaski High School in New Britain. Robert served with the US Air Force during the

Vietnam War. While in the Philippines on August 2nd 1968 he received the Presidential Citation Award for exceptional services rendered at the scene of the Ruby tower disaster scene following and earthquake. This award was given to him by the president of the Philippines Ferdinand Marcos. He was also awarded the Air Force Commendation medal for this same disaster.

He was employed in the Data Center at Aetna in Hartford for 28 years, retiring in 1997. Bob was a member of the American Legion Post in New Britain and the Spartan Veterans in Kensington.

Besides his wife Maureen, he leaves two sons, Robert H. Corr IV of New Britain; and Matthew P Corr and his wife Agnes of Southington; a sister, Maura Corr of Wells, Maine; four grandchildren, Robert H Corr V, Madison, Riley and Owen Corr; several nieces and nephews. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by a brother, Christopher Corr and a sister, Suzanne Corr-LaPlante.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Tuesday 9:30 AM at St. Frances of Assisi Church, 1755 Stanley Street, New Britain. Please go DIRECTLY to the church. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Veterans Administration Medical Center, 555 Willard Avenue, Newington, CT 06111. Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting with arrangements. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Mazur, Yvonne E. (Snay)

Yvonne E. (Snay) Mazur, 102, of Bloomfield passed away peacefully on Monday, December 6, 2021. She was the widow of Anthony Mazur. Born in Roxton Falls, Quebec, Canada, Yvonne was the daughter of the late Frank and Ida (Richards) Snay. She was a longtime Bloomfield resident, moving from Hartford over sixtyfive years ago. Yvonne worked at Connecticut General Life Insurance for many years, retiring in 1982. She was a member of Sacred Heart Church, Bloomfield. Yvonne is survived by her son Lance A. Mazur and his wife Clare of Glastonbury, her daughter Leslie A. Mazur of Simsbury, two grandchildren Clare Mazur, Clinton Mazur and his wife Bonnie, two great grandchildren Kane and Alex Mazur, her brother-in-law James Lamprecht and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband and parents, she is predeceased by her three sisters Solange (Sally) Perron, Rita Quagan and Doris Lamprecht. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 11:00 am at Sacred Heart Church, 26 Wintonbury Ave, Bloomfield. Burial will be in Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Foodshare, 450 Woodland Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002. For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com

MULRYAN

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

O'Brien, Joyce



Joyce O'Brien, 81, of Suffield, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at home surrounded by her family. She was the loving wife of William F. O'Brien Sr.

Born on March, 2, 1940, in Hartford to the late Bertha (Stanzwyck) and Anthony Bitcauski. Joyce attended Windsor schools and met the love of her life, William and

Joyce enjoyed cooking, rug hooking and gardening. She enjoyed her time in Naples, Florida and Boothbay Harbor, Maine. Joyce adored her family and loved being with her grandchildren.

In addition to her husband of 62 years, she is survived by her 3 sons, William F. O'Brien Jr. and wife Margaret from Windsor Locks, Robert A. O'Brien and wife Susan from Granby and Dennis P. O'Brien from Windsor; sister, Jacquie Holt of Suffield; grandchildren, Christopher, Dylan, Logan, Gavin, Zachary, Hannah and Connor and 2 nieces, Malinda Labruna and her husband Rick of Enfield and Rebecca O'Brien and her husband Kevin of Stafford.

The family would like to say a very special thank you to everyone at hospice who took such wonderful care of Joyce during their time spent with her and the amazing care she received from both Hannah and Dennis.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date private to the family. In lieu of flowers, donations in Joyce's memory can be made to the CT Humane Society, please visit www.cthumane.org. The Cremation Society of CT in Windsor has been entrusted with the arrangements. For online condolences please visit www.cremationct.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

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placeanad.courant.com/obituaries Hartford Courant





OBITUARIES

Britschock, MaryAnn (Diekewicz)



MaryAnn Britschock, 82, of Windsor Locks, passed away December 6, 2021. She was born to the late George and Margaret (Spinella) Diekewicz and was predeceased by her sister Janet Mazzella. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends. MaryAnn enjoyed gardening and the beach, but

most of all her grandchildren. MaryAnn is survived by her husband Frederick of Windsor Locks; her children, Susan Maglieri and her husband Gregory of Simsbury, Eric Britschock and his wife Cathy of Willington, Lisa Tapia and her husband Kevin of Sherrills Ford , NC, her grandchildren, Christopher and Erica Maglieri, Scott, Alexander and Daniel Britschock, Spencer and Kassandra Gianinoto and great-granddaughter Samantha. Funeral services for MaryAnn are private and burial will be held at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the charity of your choice. For online condolences please visit leetestevens.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Campagna, Glenn Paul



Glenn Paul Campagna, age 56, of Atlanta Georgia, passed away Sunday December 5th 2021. He is survived by his children, Jacinto (Cinto), Camilo and Tiziano (Tiz) and their Mother, Georgia Campagna; Mother, Karen Campagna; Campagna; Father, Paul Brother, Christopher (Katharine) Campagna; Sisters,

(Norman) Levy and Courtney (Robert) Smith; Fiancé, Triphinia Wallace; and numerous nieces and nephews. Glenn grew up in Farmington Connecticut where he attended Farmington High School. He was an incredible scholar and athlete. A leader his peers looked up to, Glenn was student body President and captain of his soccer, wrestling and lacrosse teams. He attended Duke University on a wrestling scholarship and graduated with a business degree in 1988. Glenn had several careers including working as a stock broker and most recently as the founder and CEO of Prosource Building Services in Georgia.

Glenn was a trusted and fiercely loyal friend. Those who knew him knew how much he valued his relationships. He was a compassionate person who had many lifelong friends he cared for deeply. He would spend

countless hours talking with friends near and far in deep, meaningful ways.

Glenn was passionate about traveling, learning, fine food, wine and especially art. He had exceptional taste and a talent for acquiring and collecting art from all ever the world. over the world.

Glenn loved his children deeply. They were his greatest pride and joy. Some of the most favorite times he had with his cherished boys include going to the movies and dinner, teaching Cinto and Camilo how to drive, teaching Cinto wresting moves, fishing with Camillo and playing soccer with Tiz. We know he will be looking over them in all that they do as they grow into young men.

into young men.
In lieu of flowers a donation in may be made to the charity of your choice in Glenn's name. Visitation will be held at Holy Spirit Catholic Church at 4465 Northside Dr. Northwest, Atlanta Georgia on Monday, December 13th, from 9:30 am – 10:30 am, with a mass immediately following. Burial will be at Arlington Memorial Park at 201 Mount Vernon Highway Northwest, Sandy Springs Georgia. All are invited to a reception after the cemetery, in Sandy Springs. The location will be shared at the mass at the mass.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

FOSTER, DEON



Deon Foster, 50, transcended peacefully surrounded by family October 14, 2021 in New York City. Born and raised in Htfd, CT, on June 18, 1971, to predeceased Hazel Foster & Leon Harris, Deon will be sadly missed by sister, Latrice Foster; brothers, Jamaal Foster, Henry Andrews Jr., Akeem Moore, and many loving relatives/friends.

Please celebrate Deon's life dressed in all black with family December 10, 2021, at The American Legion, 2121 Main Street, Hartford, CT 6PM-10PM

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Nye, Betty M

On Thursday, December 2, 2021, Betty Marie (Kinsey) Nye, of Bonita Springs FL, passed away from natural causes at the age of 90.

Betty was born on November 15, 1931, in Perkasie, PA to Walter and Mable (Slifer) Kinsey. She graduated from Sellerville-Perkasie High School in 1949, and in 1953 moved to Washington, D.C. She was married to Walter Nye in 1954. After raising her children in Alexandria, VA, she worked as a secretary for the Department of Defense at Fort Belvoir, VA, and in the Pentagon, where she rose to become the personal secretary to three Judge Advocate Generals in the U.S. Army and Air Force.

Betty was known as the "wit of the class" in high school (according to the editors of her 1949 yearbook) and put that talent to work over her life, composing doggerel poems for family, friends, and co-workers on any occasion of note. Throughout her secretarial career she also won commendations for her dedication and hard work from Senior Officers and Generals in the Defense Department. After her retirement from the government in 1995, she moved to Bonita Springs, FL, where she worked as a receptionist for Downing-Frye Realty in Naples, FL, on a part-time basis for many years.

A resident of Bonita Springs for 26 years, Betty enjoyed an independent and active lifestyle with daily walks on Bonita Beach, swimming at the Vanderbilt Lakes pool, riding her bike (which she did into her 80's), playing bridge and taking several cruise ship vacations.

Betty was preceded in death by the father of her children, Walter Nye, as well as her brother Charles Kinsey (Angel) of Fort Myers, FL, and two sisters, Doris Hockman of Perkasie, PA, and Shirley Jones (Ed) of Fort Payne Al. She is survived by her two shildren Fort Payne, AL. She is survived by her two children, Gregory Nye (Haddya) of Wethersfield, CT, and Bonnie Kowalczyk of Naples, FL, two grandchildren, Alexander Nye (Perry) of Glastonbury, CT, and Jonathan Nye (Helen) of Wethersfield, CT, and three nieces, Patti Fleming (Jack) of New Bern, NC, Jill Batman (Barry) of Leland, NC, and Sharon Jones Mince of Hoover, AL.

At Betty's request, there will be no funeral or memorial service. Instead, her family asks friends, colleagues and loved ones to consider making a donation to Hope Healthcare, 9470 HealthPark Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33908, whose extraordinary team of compassionate doctors, nurses, social workers, and volunteers provided care and support to Betty and her family through their Hope Hospice program. https://hopehcs.org

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Gibbs, Roger W.



Dateline: Clifton Park, NY

Roger W. Gibbs, 76, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on December 8, 2021. Roger was born on October 25, 1945 in Hartford, CT to the late James and Irene (Jeffery) Gibbs.

Irene (Jeffery) Gibbs.
Following graduation from Windsor Locks High School. Roger continued his education and attended the Indiana Institute of Technology. In 1976, he graduated with his Master's degree in Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. In 1976, Roger and his wife Susan moved to Clifton Park, where they worked and raised their family. Early in his career, Roger worked for General Electric in Schenectady, where he earned their prestigious "Engineer of the Year" award and was later an active member of the Quarter Century Club. After many rewarding years with General Electric, Roger then worked for M.A.O. (Bechtel) where he worked until his well-deserved retirement in 2008.
Roger adored all things science related, from aircrafts,

Roger adored all things science related, from aircrafts, computer technology, and even other worldly life forms. Roger believed humans could not be the only intelligence. life and enjoyed researching the idea of a life existence on other planets. It was very common for him to be educating his girls on scientific principles such as the Bernoulli Theory and the Helmholtz Resonance/Theory. He also shared his knowledge through teaching adult education at Shenendehowa, where he helped those in his classes learn the basics of computer programming. Roger is survived by his loving wife Susan P. Gibbs; daughters Sarah (Jason) DePasquale and Rachel (Benjamin) Hannur; grandchildren Lorenzo A. DePasquale and Winston B. Hannur; Cousin Catherine Brown and half-brother Douglas (Shingo) Gibbs.

Friends and family are invited and may call on Monday, December 13, 2021 from 9:30-10:30am at Townley & Wheeler Funeral Home, 21 Midline Road, Ballston Lake,

A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 11:00am at Our Lady of Grace Church, 73 Midline Road, Ballston Lake, NY.

Interment will follow in Most Holy Redeemer Cemetery, Niskayuna, NY.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Roger's honor to the MGH Lewy Body Fund and mailed to the Massachusetts General Hospital Development Office, 125 Nashua Street, Suite 540, Boston, MA 02114, Attention Kylie Wojicicki or online at https://giving.massgeneral.org. Please be sure that if donations are being made online that you select additional details and designate the MGH Lewy Body Fund in honor of Roger Gibbs. Roger had made the ultimate donation by participating in clinical trials and has gifted his brain for continued research. Roger has always been passionate about finding a cure.

With confidence, the family has placed their trust in the loving care of the Townley & Wheeler Funeral Home, 21 Midline Road, Ballston Lake, and they encourage you to view and leave messages on Roger's Book of Memories at www.TownleyWheelerFH.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Niedbala, William John



William John Niedbala, 68, of Ivoryton, CT, passed away peacefully at home on December 8, 2021. Bill was born and raised in New Britain, CT, the son of the late William and Jean (Smulski) Niedbala. After graduating from Pulaski High School, Bill earned his Associates Degree Electrical Engineering Technology from Hartford State Technical College. He later graduated from

Central Connecticut State University with Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering. Bill was employed at Pratt & Whitney for several years and transitioned to Henkel-Loctite, retiring in 2019

Bill married the love of his life, Cynthia Kearns Niedbala, and moved to Ivoryton where they raised their family. He was a devoted husband and father, who was very proud of witnessing the successes of his daughters. Bill loved antique cars, gardening, and home improve-ment projects. In recent years, Bill's passion was living as Santa Billy, bringing joy and kindness to children with special needs, families in financial distress, and establishing his "Operation Holiday Happiness" to meet the growing needs of others.

Bill was a devoted communicant of St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish. He was also active in the Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of Sorrows Council 12113, serving most recently as Grand Knight. He also served as Faithful Navigator for the Father Philip Sheridan Assembly, Fourth Degree.

Bill is lovingly survived by his wife of 44 years, Cindy, and their children, Megan and Bethany. He also leaves his mother-in-law, Charlene Kearns, numerous brothers and sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews, friends, and neighbors to grieve his loss.

Visitation will be held on Monday, December 13, 2021 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm at the Robinson, Wright & Weymer Funeral Home, 34 Main Street in Centerbrook. Bill's Funeral Mass will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 10:30am at Our Lady of Sorrows Church (St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish) 14 Prospect Street in Essex.

Interment will be privately held by his family.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Bill's name to the Secret Sleigh Project (www.secretsleighproject org or secretsleigh@gmail.com) and the Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Sorrows Council 12113, PO Box 103, Essex, CT, 06426. To share a memory of Bill or send a condolence to his family please visit www. rwwfh.com

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Passaro, Sharon L (Luzzi)



Sharon L Passaro, 56, of Manchester passed away suddenly at Hartford Hospital with her family by her side on Friday, December 3, 2021. Born on January 26, 1965 in New London, CT, daughter of the late Sandra Luzzi (Behan), she was a graduate of Manchester High School,

Class of 1983. At the time of her passing, Sharon was a devoted employee of Disability Insurance Specialists, who cherished her co-workers. She was a loving, dedicated mother to her daughters and there was nothing she adored more than her grandchildren. You could always find her at the beach with her toes in the sand and a good book and a good book.

Sharon is survived by her two daughters, Laura Dorius of South Windsor, Bentley Torres and her husband Isaiah of East Hartford; five adored grandchildren, Jorden, Audrey, Alex, Ethan and Olivia; her siblings, Thomas Luzzi of New Orleans, LA, Michael Luzzi, Laura Luzzi, Steven Luzzi and fiancé Judy of Manchester, CT;

a niece, nephew and dear friends.

A celebration of life will be held in South Windsor on Thursday, December 16, 2021 from 4-8pm at Maneeleys - The Grand Lodge. In lieu of flowers, please bring an ornament to decorate a tree in Sharon's honor, as Christmas was her favorite holiday

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OBITUARIES

Spencer, Gwendolyn W.

Gwendolyn W. Spencer, 89, of Bloomfield, CT, beloved widow of Dr. Richard P. Spencer, passed away on December 5, 2021. She is survived by her daughter Carolyn R. Spencer of Bloomfield and six nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband Dick, she was predeceased by her daughters, Jennifer H. Spencer and Priscilla J. Spencer, a brother Perry R. Williams and his wife Anne B. Williams, as well as a sister-in-law Linda Spencer. Gwen, the daughter of Claude G. and Ednah D. Williams, grew up in Garden City, Long Island. On April 7, 1956, she married Dick, her best friend. They settled in Orange, CT where they raised their three daughters. Gwen received a BS in Nursing from Skidmore College in 1954, a Master Gardener's Certificate from the University of Connecticut, and a Master's Degree in Early College in 1954, a Master Gardener's Certificate from the University of Connecticut, and a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She spent most of her career as a nursery school teacher at the Orange Congregational Church and then at First Church in West Hartford. Gwen will be remembered for her kindness, beautiful smile, sense of humor, and love of all things bright and beautiful. She and Dick enjoyed going antiquing and traveling around the U.S. and the world. There are no calling hours. A funeral service will take place on Friday, December 10, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at Asylum Hill Congregational Church, Hartford. Masks are required in Church. It can be livestreamed at: ahcc. org/live-streaming and then by clicking on "Live Stream Access." In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society of Connecticut or the charity of one's choice. The family would like to thank the staff on the Cedar Unit of Caleb Hitchcock for their excellent care of Gwen. Molloy Funeral Home of West Hartford has care of arrangements care of arrangements.

> Molloy Huneral Home 906 FARMINGTON AVENUE WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06119

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Wirth, Mary Ann (Meagher)



Wirth, Mary Ann (Meagher)

Mary Ann (Meagher) Wirth, 92, died December 4, 2021 after a brief illness, with her loving family at her side at Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, MA. Mary, also known as Marie, was born in Florence, NY on November 16, 1929 to Mary Ann (Britton) and Joseph Meagher. Marie was the oldest of eight (with three brothers and four sisters—Joseph, Frank, Phila, Pauline, Margaret, Nancy, and James), and grew up in Florence, NY. She attended a one-room school for the elementary grades and graduated from nearby Camden High School in 1947. Marie went on to attend and graduate from the Central City Business Institute in Syracuse, NY, during which time she met her first husband, Robert Ostrander. Following their marriage in 1949 they moved to Brampton, Ontario, Canada where their son, Richard, was born. After Robert's untimely death in a plane crash in 1951, Marie moved back to Camden. In time, she re-married. Together with her new husband Charles (Charley) Wirth, the couple moved to West Granby, CT, and added three more children to their family: Christine, Nancy, and John. Marie was a homemaker and mother and added three more children to their family: Christine, Nancy, and John. Marie was a homemaker and mother above all else, creating a warm, loving home filled with above all else, creating a warm, loving home filled with home-cooked food, pets, gardens, and room for her children to grow and explore. She was gracious and kind, and a gifted listener. Always wanting to help those less fortunate, she and Charley opened their home to two foster children; later, when Marie's children were older, she enjoyed being the nanny for another local child, helping to raise and love her for the next 15 years. Naturally, when her own grandchildren started arriving she was delighted and pitched in to care for them at every opportunity. With their children grown, Marie and her beloved husband Charley took the opportunity to travel. They made numerous road the opportunity to travel. They made numerous road trips across North America bringing their little pooch Muffin along with them in their camper. Twice, they went as far as Alaska and the Arctic Circle. They also traveled to Europe. Marie would often say how lucky she had been in her life. In her last years, even as her health became an issue, she rarely complained. We will always remember her for her kindness and love. Marie was predeceased by her beloved husband Charley in 2018; also in 2018 by her son-in-law Charles Normand. In 1994 she was predeceased by her dearly loved son, John Charles Joseph Wirth. Additionally she was predeceased by her brother Frank Meagher, and sisters Pauline Mitchell, Nancy Comins, and Phila Burns. Marie leaves behind her brothers Joseph and James, and sister Margaret Owens; her son Richard Ostrander Wirth and his wife Margaret Leahy Wirth, of Boston; daughter Christine Wirth, also of Boston; daughter Nancy Roehl and her husband Thomas Roehl of Plymouth, CT. She also leaves her much loved extended family including six grandchildren: Gregory, Drew, Jacob, and Dayana Roehl; Katrina Wirth Fulton, and Laura Leahy Wirth; nine great-grandchildren: Savannah and Kiera Roehl; Adriana Jeridore; Jonathan, Dylan, and Thomas Roehl; Genevieve, Hobbes, and August Fulton; as well as her dearly loved sisters-in-law, and many nieces and neph-ews. The family wishes to thank Marie's caregivers who provided her with so much comfort and care in her last years. Their professionalism and kindness allowed Marie to stay at home until the very end of her life. Calling hours will be Saturday, December 11, 2021 from 2 to 4pm at the Southwick Forastiere Funeral Home, 624 College Highway, Southwick, MA. They will conclude with a short service beginning about 3:45pm. The family respectfully requests all attendees wear a mask. Burial will take place at a future date. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to The Little Guild Animal Shelter, West Cornwall, CT www.littleguild.org or Baystate Medical Center Hospice Care www.baystatehealth.org/giving . For online condolences please

visit www.forastiere.com. Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries



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Booth, Marion (Herrick)



Marion (Herrick) Booth, 93, beloved wife of the late Lewis Booth, passed away at her in Manchester Monday, December 6, 2021, surrounded by her family. She is the daughter of the late Carl and Helen (Burnett) Herrick. She leaves behind her children (Bichard) dren Jacqueline (Richard)
Kilpatrick, Jo-Ann Thomas,
Carolyn (Daniel) Madden,
Laura (Richard) Colanti; grandchildren Scott and Kara

Kilpatrick and Elinor, Thomas and Caroline Colanti; and 6 great-grandchildren. Marion is also survived by her 6 great-grandchildren. Marion is also survived by her brother Carl Herrick and sister Evelyn Hampson, as well as several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband Lewis and son-in-law William Thomas. Family and friends may call at the John F. Tierney Funeral Home, 219 W. Center St., Manchester, on Monday, December 13th from 10-11 am, with a funeral home service immediately following. Burial will be private. For online condolences, please visit www. tierneyfuneralhome.com tierneyfuneralhome.com.



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Crowley, Darlene Mae



Darlene Mae Crowley, 64, of Marlborough, passed away peacefully on Tuesday Dec. 7th at Middlesex Hospital . Born July 12, 1957 in Manchester, CT she was the daughter of the late Dorothy Mae Gaylord. Darlene had worked for the Town of Marlborough as an Administrative Assistant,

Department, Town Hall and Public Works until her illness. She was a longtime member of the Roy B. Pettengill Ambulance Assoc., a member of the Roy B. Pettengill Ambulance Assoc., a member of the Ladies Auxiliary in the Marlborough Fire Dept., she had previously driven a school bus in town for many years, and taught CPR Classes. Darlene is survived by her son Denys Crowley and his wife Genny of East Hampton, her daughter Sandy Crowley of Marlborough, cherished grandson Jonathan Crowley of East Hampton, very special nephew and niece Ryan Crowley and Carrie Adii and her long time friend Sam Totedo. Friends may Adii, and her long time friend Sam Totedo. Friends may call at the Spencer Funeral Home 112 Main St. East Hampton on Thursday Dec. 16th from 5:00PM until 7:00PM. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the Roy B. Pettengill Ambulance Assoc. P.O.Box 308 Marlborough, CT 06447. To leave online condolences please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

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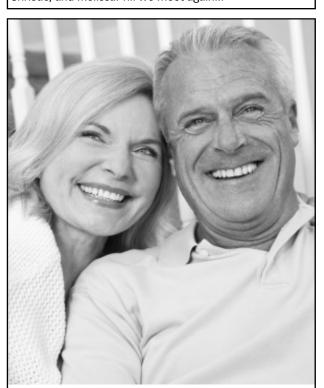
IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory Of JOSEPH W MORELLI



03/10/1984-12/10/2018

It's true that we miss a loved one who has passed away to the same degree that we loved that person during their lifetime. We loved you with every bit of our hearts and we miss you to the same extent. Three years later; our hearts are still broken; our eyes fill with tears at the mention of your name; our spirits are still crushed. We cant understand thy you were taken so early from us when there was s much life that you needed to live. We honor and celebrate your memory every day and keep you at the center of our lives. Our Joey has been free from disease and pain for these years now and for this, we are grateful. Rest in Power my son. Love, Dad and Mom, Chris and Caitlin, Steven and Christie, and Melissa. Till we meet again...



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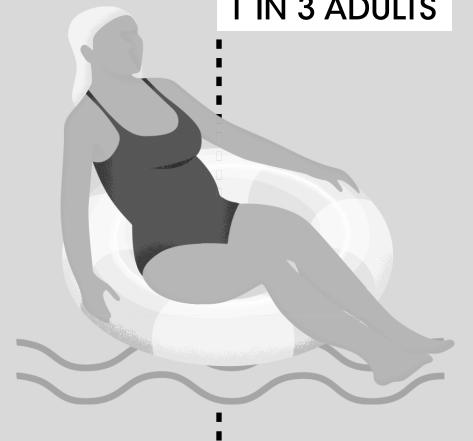
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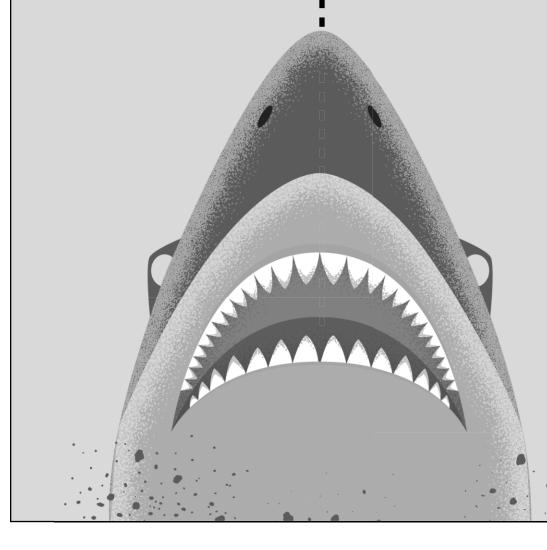


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CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

Virus-linked deaths nearing 9,000

Weekly test positivity rate reaches 6.14%, with statewide hospitalizations at highest since mid-February

By Eliza Fawcett Hartford Courant

The total number of deaths due to the coronavirus is nearing 9,000 for Connecticut while the weekly COVID-19 test positivity remains at its highest level since January, state officials reported Thursday.

Hospitalizations due to the virus primarily among unvaccinated patients — are at their highest point since February. There were 37 additional COVID-19 fatalities over the last week.

The delta variant of COVID-19 is responsible for the vast majority of the state's cases. So far, Connecticut has recorded just two cases of the omicron variant, one in Hartford County over the weekend and another in Fairfield County earlier this week.

"I understand the anxiety that's surrounding the omicron variant, but the variant that is here

right now, the delta variant, is predominant and its causing a lot of individuals to be in the hospital," said Hartford HealthCare senior system director of infection prevention Keith Grant.

Emerging data suggests that omicron spreads quickly and that boosters deliver the best available protection against it, said Dr. Ulysses Wu, an infectious disease specialist at Hartford HealthCare.

Still. Wu characterized the delta

variant as "the demon that we're dealing with at this point."

"Everybody's got their eye focused on omicron, they're focused on the bogeyman outside of the house," Wu said. But delta, he said, is like the enemy that is "calling from inside the house."

Cases and positivity rate: Connecticut reported 2,679 new COVID-19 cases on Thursday out of 41,361 tests administered, for

a daily positivity rate of 6.5% – lower than Tuesday's rate of 8.3% but still higher than the state has seen for much of the past year.

The state's seven-day positivity rate now stands at 6.14%, the highest it has been since mid-January.

Like the rest of the Northeast, eight Connecticut counties are currently recording "high" levels of COVID-19 transmission, as

Turn to Virus, Page 2

Newtown to learn remotely **Dec. 14**

Classes moving online on 9th anniversary of Sandy Hook shooting

By Christine Dempsey Hartford Courant

Newtown students will learn remotely Dec. 14, the ninth anniversary of the Sandy Hook shooting, the superintendent of schools

In a letter to parents Wednesday, Superintendent Lorrie Rodrigue said she hopes the decision will relieve some of the stress that comes with the day, especially in light of recent threats of violence that have plagued schools around the state in the wake of last month's shooting at a Michigan high school.

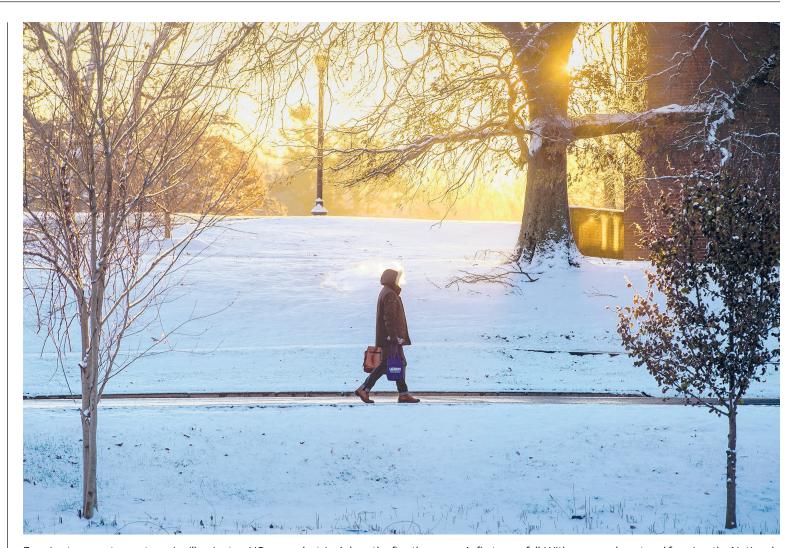
"Aside from the emotion this day evokes, we often have to deal with calls or anonymous threats that raise levels of stress for the entire school community," Rodrigue wrote. "Three years ago, we evacuated Sandy Hook School due to a threatening call to the main office. Anonymous threats add to the level of anxiety, and our goal this year is to minimize the level of stress on students, parents, and staff given the current climate."

Rodrigue said she proposed the move at Wednesday's board of

education meeting. From Vernon in the north to Norwalk in the south, Connecticut schools have been plagued by threats of violence following the Nov. 30 shooting at Oxford High School outside Detroit, which killed four students and injured more. All were hoaxes that forced school officials and police to order lockdowns, interrupting learning. Hamden High School closed for three days to improve security after threats appeared on social media Thursday and Sunday.

Sandy Hook Elementary School had no such warning. Adam Lanza shot his way into the school on Dec. 14, 2012, killing 20 students and six staff members before taking his own life. It was one of the deadliest school shootings in U.S. history.

Christine Dempsey can be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.



Freezing temperatures at sunrise illuminate a UConn pedestrian's breath after the season's first snowfall. With area roads wet and freezing, the National Weather Service issued a black ice warning. Rain and temperatures in the high 50s are forecast for the area Saturday. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

After first snow of the year, warmer weather on the way

By Christine Dempsey Hartford Courant

Many roads were slick and some classes were delayed after an inch or two of snow fell over much of Connecticut early Thursday in the first snowfall of the season.

But by the weekend, warmer conditions will return. Temperatures will rise to the mid-40s Friday and likely will reach an unusually warm 60 degrees Saturday when rain is expected, the National Weather Service said.

On Thursday, most streets were not snow-covered, but some were slippery, causing a few spinouts and crashes. The National Weather Service warned of the possibility of black ice forming on untreated roads.

On I-91 South in New Haven, a tractor trailer and car collided early Thursday, clogging traffic. It's not clear if there were injuries or if the crash was weather-related; the scene has since been cleared.

And a few school systems delayed classes, including Windsor Locks.

"Due to the time needed to treat roads that are still snow covered and slippery, Windsor Locks Public Schools will have a two hour delay," read a message on its website.

The snowfall wasn't impressive when it comes to depth, but parts of the state got more than expected: North of Hartford, Somers got 2.5 inches of snow, and North Granby got 2.4, said Gary Lessor, chief meteorologist with the Connecticut Weather Center at Western Connecticut State University. Manchester and Chester got 2 inches, Winsted got 1.7 and West Hartford, Bristol, Farmington got 1.5, he said.

Christine Dempsey may be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.



The first measurable snowfall of the season dropped about 2 inches in Tolland. JEFF KIELY/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

Schools mull mascot moves

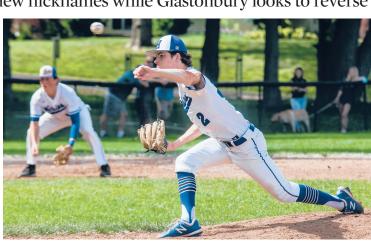
West Hartford could get new nicknames while Glastonbury looks to reverse

By Alex Putterman Hartford Courant

Two local school districts face upcoming decisions about the use of Native American mascots in their towns.

As officials in West Hartford weigh whether to remove the nicknames of one or both of the town's high schools, the Board of Education in Glastonbury will hold a hearing next week on whether to reinstate a mascot it had previously retired.

West Hartford previously retired school logos with Native American imagery but will now consider whether the Hall Warriors and Conard Chieftains need new nicknames as well. Dr. Lorna Thomas-Farquharson, chair of West Hartford's Board of Ed, said the board is seeking community feedback, particularly from students, between now and a



West Hartford's Board of Education will vote in February on whether to replace the Warriors nickname used by Hall High School. COURTESY

vote scheduled for Feb. 1.

"We need to hear from our young people because they are the ones who will be directly impacted by it," Thomas-Farquharson said.

Meanwhile in Glastonbury, in response to a petition signed by nearly 400 residents, the Board of Education will hold a hearing

Turn to Mascot, Page 2

Task force working to curb spike in car thefts

72 stolen vehicles recovered so far, police report

By Jesse Leavenworth

Hartford Courant

Sharing information immediately across town lines has proven crucial in curbing a recent spike in thefts of mostly high-end vehicles and related crimes, leaders of the Greater Hartford Regional Auto Theft Task Force said Thursday. The police task force that targets car thieves has recovered 72 stolen vehicles, arrested carjacking and murder suspects and seized several guns since its launch two

months ago. "All local police departments do a great job investigating their own cases, but historically don't do a great job at sharing that information with neighboring towns," said Hartford police Lt. Anthony Pia, who oversees operations of the 25-officer unit.

The task force also includes police from Bloomfield, Bristol, East Hartford, Farmington, Glastonbury, Manchester, Rocky Hill, Southington, West Hartford and Windsor. Members' communication has been fluid and fast, Pia said, enabling investigators to track car thefts as they unfold. The unit also uses drones to spot stolen vehicles.

Statistics show that 75% of vehicles recovered in Hartford last year were stolen from the suburbs. and that trend has continued this year, task force leaders said. Typically, the targeted cars have been more expensive models, including Mercedes, Acura, Porsche, BMW, even a Maserati.

Turn to Crime, Page 2

Closing arguments conclude in gruesome triple slaying

Sergio Correa faces life without possibility of release if convicted

By Edmund H. Mahony Hartford Courant

NEW LONDON — Both sides wrapped up closing arguments and sent the case to jurors Thursday in one of the most coldblooded murders in recent memory — the home invasion and slaughter of three members of a family in the eastern Connecticut town of Griswold after a guns-for-drugs deal

Prosecutors left jurors with an unemotional recapitulation of their case, a contrast to the boxes of grisly evidence they presented over Sergio Correa's monthlong trial. Correa, 30, of Hartford, is accused of confronting Matthew Lindquist over the December 2017 gun deal, hacking him with a machete and stabbing him more than 50 times, before bludgeoning and strangling his parents, Kenneth and Janet Lindquist, and burning down their house to incinerate the bodies and any other evidence.

The defense tried to pin the crimes on Correa's sister Ruth. Ruth Correa, 27, also of Hartford, confessed to helping her brother in the triple murder. The evidence at trial suggests she folded under state police questioning and, eight months after the crime, agreed

to testify against her brother in return for a 40-year sentence that she hopes will get her out of prison alive. The defense argued to jurors that Ruth Correa — and to a lesser degree Correa's ex-girlfriend, Tanisha Vicento, of Hartford, who was not charged — were bullied by detectives into wrongly accusing Sergio Correa.

Public defender Corrie Mainville told juror that detectives identified Correa early on as their sole suspect and fed information damaging to Correa to the women, who later "regurgitated" the allegations in their police statements. Prosecutor Stephen Carney barely acknowledged the defense charge, telling the jury simply that Correa "is guilty of the murders of Matthew and Kenneth and Janet Lindquist."

Correa, in a crisp blue suit, sat quietly with his defense team during the hours of closing arguments. He is accused of 14 crimes, running from murder to arson and faces life without the possibility of release if convicted. The gallery behind him was crowded shoulder-to-shoulder with family and friends of the Lindquists.

The evidence at the trial revealed that Matthew Lindquist, who was killed at age 21, was a heroin addict and had agreed to allow Correa to steal guns from the family house in return for drugs. The deal was to unfold over the night of Dec. 19 and 20, just before Christmas in 2017.



Sergio Correa, right, with defense attorney Joseph E. Lopez Sr., watches the prosecutor question his adoptive sister Ruth Correa during a hearing in New London Superior Court in September. **SEAN D. ELLIOT/THE DAY**

Cellphone information collected by the prosecution shows Correa was late arriving in Griswold from Hartford. The telephone messaging showed Lindquist frantic and suffering from withdrawal, but police have said they believe he decided anyway to back out of the deal.

The prosecution said that when Correa eventually arrived with Ruth, they chased Lindquist into a wooded area. Correa caught him and struck him on the head with a machete he carried in his car. The blow fractured Matthew Lindquist's skull and before he died, he whispered, "Why?" The siblings told him, falsely, that they would call an ambulance, then stabbed him dozens of times, the prosecution said.

The state medical examiner said Lindquist had 67 slash and stab wounds. Ruth Correa said her brother pressured her to participate in the stabbing, guiding her hand as she held a knife.

The siblings then entered the Lindquist home, where Matthew's father Kenneth had fallen asleep on a sofa. Correa attacked and killed Kenneth Lindquist with a baseball bat, the prosecution said.

The struggle awakened Janet Lindquist, who Ruth Correa said her bother ordered her to hold in her bedroom. When Janet Lindquist pleaded to know what was happening, Ruth Correa said she replied that it was all Matthew's fault. Soon after, Ruth said her brother ordered her to kill Janet Lindquist and she refused. At that point, the prosecution said Correa ordered Janet Lindquist to kneel on the floor with her face toward her bed and he beat her in the back of the head with his bat. When it appeared she was still alive, he is accused of trying to strangle her. Medical evidence indicates that she was still breathing when her house was set on fire.

Ruth Correa said she and her brother collected valuables from the home, including family Christmas presents that had been stored for the holiday before setting the house on fire and driving off.

The next day, Ruth Correa had a text message exchange with a friend about the previous night's events, according to the defense closing argument.

"Just got home," Ruth said.
"How'd it go?" the friend asked.
"According to plan," Ruth said.
"Have fun?" the friend asked.

Crime

from Page 1

Thieves use the luxury sedans and SUVs, most of which have been left unlocked with keys and fobs inside, to commit violent crimes, including shootings and robberies, police said. Many of the suspects are juveniles, task force leaders said, and one repeat offender can wreak a lot of havoc.

A 15-year-old boy who was arrested on Oct. 13, for example, had been involved in a shooting and car-jackings spanning several towns, Hartford police spokesman Lt. Aaron Boisvert said. Police found a loaded .40 caliber Glock handgun with a 30-round magazine when the teen was arrested, he said. Interviewed by task force members, the suspect admitted

to involvement in car-jackings in Windsor, Hartford and Rocky Hill., Boisvert said.

On Dec, 2, task force members responded to a car-jacking at 221 Trumbull St. in Hartford and tracked the stolen Mercedes to New Britain, through Southington and into Waterbury, where three suspects fled and were soon caught, police said. A 17-year-old from Hartford had a .38 caliber revolver, which police believe was used in the Trumbull Street car-jacking, Boisvert said. Another suspect had been arrested in connection with two stolen vehicles the week before.

Pia and task force leader Capt. Jeff Rousseau said it is not unusual to see car theft suspects back on the streets and breaking the law soon after being arrested for other crimes. "Very rarely do we run across someone who this is their first time," Pia said.

Legislators, mostly Republicans, have been calling for tougher penalties for young suspects. Gov. Ned Lamont, a Democrat, said recently, "Some of these kids, we've got to be a lot stricter with. It's probably 10% of these folks who are causing 90% of the problems ... I take that very seriously, not only are they endangering their lives but also the lives of those around them."

The recent spike in stolen cars goes against a long-running decrease in motor vehicle thefts in Connecticut, which peaked in 1991. The trend in the location of targeted cars also has been away from the cities and into communities with populations lower than 50,000.

Still, the thieves often drive back into the cities and use the vehicles to commit other crimes, police say. Similar task forces have been created in other areas of the state dealing with the same scenario of car thefts and gun crimes spanning city and suburb.

The Greater Hartford task force was formed after Hartford Police Chief Jason Thody convened chiefs of surrounding police departments to address the increase in auto thefts and related crimes. Since its inception, the unit has made 46 arrests — 27 of those for auto theft. The task force also seized 10 firearms and its work has led to two arrest warrants for murder and 29 warrants for other crimes.

"Bringing regional resources together to work shoulder to shoulder increases the likelihood of solving these crimes," Rousseau said.

The task force works with state court officials, probation and patrol officers, state police and federal authorities. State funding supports operations, and Pia and Rousseau said discussions are ongoing to continue the unit long-term.

In the meantime, vehicle owners can do themselves and every other potential crime victim a favor by locking their cars and and not leaving vehicles unoccupied and running, police say. Thieves are waiting and watching. More than 90% of the stolen cars that the task force has tracked were unlocked with keys and fobs left inside, Pia said.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com

Mascot

from Page 1

Dec. 14 about whether to restore the "Tomahawks" nickname the local high school jettisoned last summer. A board policy requires a hearing any time more than 1% of registered voters request one.

Doug Fogle, chair of the Glastonbury Board of Ed, said from his perspective not much has changed since a bipartisan 7-1 vote last summer to replace the name Tomahawks.

"Without the petition, we would not be discussing this," Fogle said.

Since the vote last summer, Glastonbury High has adopted the nickname Guardians, using a logo designed by a student. Fogle notes that several board members who voted to remove the previous nickname easily won reelection this past November, which he views as affirmation of that decision.

"The purpose of a mascot is to unite the community, and it was pretty clear from all the public comments that we received on both sides that the Tomahawk was a divisive mascot," Fogle said. "It had stopped serving its purpose, and it was time to make a change."

At least a half dozen Connecticut

towns have removed Native American mascots in the past two years, leaving about 10 who continue to use them in some form.

Last year, the state legislature passed a provision to withhold slot machine revenue from Connecticut's two tribal casinos from any towns whose schools continue to use Native American mascots.

"We're at a point of looking at morals and principles and values with it. I'm not going to trivialize the amount of funding ... but it's important to make a decision that's not just based on monetary value.

— Lorna Thomas-Farquharson, West Hartford Board of Education

It's important for us to look at the principle of it."

West Hartford, for example, stands to lose \$28,000 annually as a result of the provision.

According to the list the state is using — originally compiled and published by the Courant — Conard's Chieftain mascot qualifies as evoking Native Americans whereas Hall's Warriors logo does not. Still, Thomas-Farquharson said the Board of Education's decision in February will be less about preserving the town's share of slot machine revenue and more about making a principled decision.

"We're at a point of looking at morals and principles and values with it," she said. "I'm not going to trivialize the amount of funding ... but it's important to make a decision that's not just based on monetary value. It's important for us to look at the principle of it."

Thomas-Farquharson said board members will consider the Hall and Conard nicknames in the context of the district's recently passed educational equity policy, which includes "a solemn promise to identify and dismantle all elements of systemic racism and historical inequities."

In Connecticut and nationally, Native American groups have largely opposed references to their culture in the nicknames and logos used by sports teams, which they often consider stereotypical and demeaning.

"While the stated intent may be to 'honor' American Indians, there is a great potential for less than respectful behaviors to occur in conjunction with these mascots," Mohegan Chief Lynn Malerba said in a statement last year. "Additionally, people should not be considered mascots. It is demeaning to be relegated to a stereotyping of a people. This should not be allowed

to continue."
Along with Conard, Connecticut schools that continue to use Native American nicknames or imagery with no stated intention to remove it include: Canton (Warriors), Derby (Red Raiders), Killingly (Redmen), Montville (Indians), Nonnewaug (Chiefs), Wamogo (Warriors), Wilcox Tech (Indians), Windsor (Warriors) and Torrington (Red Raiders).

Some of those schools — including Canton, Montville and Windsor — have begun discussions about replacing their nicknames and/or logos, similar to those happening in West Hartford.

Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@courant.com.

Virus

from Page 1

defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. With that level of transmission, the CDC advises people to wear a mask in public indoor settings.

With the rising caseload, Newington said it was closing all town buildings to the public, except the public library. In East Hartford, Mayor Mike Walsh said masks are again required in public buildings.

"Because we are seeing a high level of community transmission, we will require employees and the public to wear a mask in all town facilities," Walsh said. "Local businesses and organizations are strongly encouraged to implement a masking policy for indoor spaces to reduce the risk of transmission among employees and customers."

Hospitalizations: As of Thursday, Connecticut has 576 patients hospitalized with COVID-19, an increase of one individual since Wednesday, when the state recorded a 50-person increase. Hospitalizations are currently at their highest point since Feb. 17.

According to state data, 77.4% of people hospitalized with COVID-19 are not fully vaccinated.

Currently at Hartford Health-Care, 5% of COVID-19 patients in critical care are vaccinated, Grant said.

This past year, before vaccines were widely available, hospital-

izations peaked at more than 1,100 in early January. In 2020, about a month into the pandemic, hospitalizations reached nearly 2,000 by mid-April.

Deaths: Connecticut reported 37 additional COVID-19 deaths on Thursday, bringing its total during the pandemic to 8,946.

The United States has now recorded 793,597 deaths related to COVID-19, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

Vaccinations: As of Thursday, 85.5% of all Connecticut residents and 95% of those 12 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 73.1% of all residents and 82.9% of those 12 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

Additionally, about 30.8% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents 18 or older have received a booster dose.

The CDC warns that booster shots are sometimes misclassified as first doses, likely inflating the reported number of first-dose coverage and understating the true number of people who have received boosters.

Compared to vaccinated residents, unvaccinated residents are currently five times more likely to be infected with COVID-19, 12 times more likely to be hospitalized with the virus and 16 times more likely to die from it.

Eliza Fawcett can be reached at elfawcett@courant.com.



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Ex-prison site may be turned into high school

State hoping to tear down Bergin Correctional Institution to make way for technical program

Associated Press

State officials are working on a plan that would transform the site of a former prison into a technical high school.

The University of Connecticut, which had taken control of the former Bergin Correctional Institution in Mansfield in 2015, on Wednesday transferred the 35-acre site and 25 adjoining acres back to the state Office of Policy and Management.

Paul Hinsch, the state's policy

director for asset management, said officials have been searching for an adequate site to replace the old Windham Technical High School for over a decade.

The site of the former prison could work, he said, because it already has infrastructure such as sewer and water hookups and the needed land for athletic fields.

The prison, built in 1988, was closed in 2011 as the state's inmate population declined. UConn took control of the site, hoping to use it as a centralized food service facil-



State officials are working on a plan that would transform the site of the former Bergin Correctional Institution in Mansfield into a technical high school. PAT EATON-ROBB/AP 2015

ity, Hinsch said. But that venture was eventually deemed too costly and the site has only been used for parking during nearby construction projects, he said.

The plan to build a high school on the site is still in its preliminary stages and the cost and timeframe have not been finalized, he said.

No matter what happens to the site, the existing prison buildings would be torn down and no students will ever serve detention in a former prison cell, he said.

If the site is not used for a high school, UConn will get it back in five years, he said.

"It's really a win-win if we can do this, because UConn and the technical high schools already have an existing agricultural relationship and those agricultural fields are right behind where this potential school could go," he said.

Expelled cadet files suit over parent ban

Coast Guard Academy's 'archaic' policy prohibits students who have kids

By Pat Eaton-Robb Associated Press

A former cadet who was expelled from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy after becoming a father filed a federal lawsuit Wednesday challenging the school's policy that prohibits students from being parents.

Isaak Olson was two months from graduating from the academy in 2014 with a degree in mechanical engineering and a commission as an officer when he disclosed that his fiancee had given birth to their first child several months earlier, according the lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Connecticut.

The academy expelled Olson under a regulation that requires cadets to either resign or be "disenrolled" if they incur a "parental obligation" from a pregnancy over 14 weeks, according to the lawsuit.

"The decision to become a parent is deeply personal, and no school or job should be able to interfere with that choice," Elana Bildner, an ACLU of Connecticut staff attorney representing Olson, said in a statement. "The U.S. Coast Guard Academy's archaic regulation, which forces cadets to choose between parenthood and their degrees, has been morally wrong and unconstitutional since its inception."

The ban was introduced in the late 1970s, just after the academy began admitting women, Bildner said.

"It is likely no accident that the academy instituted its arcane ban on parenthood only after it began admitting women," she said. "This policy has no place in Connecticut or elsewhere, and it must end."

Messages were left Wednesday seeking comment from both the school and the Coast Guard.

Olson learned of his fiancee's pregnancy in April of his junior year, according to the lawsuit. She decided not to have an abortion and he decided not to resign because that would have meant allowing the academy to recoup the cost of his education, estimated at up to \$500,000, according to the lawsuit.

His fiancee gave birth in August 2013. Olson disclosed that he had a child on a duty screening application in March 2014, which was the first time he had been asked about dependents, according to the lawsuit.

The couple, in an effort to resolve the matter and allow him to graduate, had Olson's parental rights terminated, according to his attorneys. The couple is now married with two children, according to the lawsuit.

He was never given a hearing and was "disenrolled" from the academy, according to the lawsuit. He decided to sue after going through a lengthy administrative process in a effort to get his status restored,

Bildner said.

Olson enlisted in the Coast Guard shortly after his expulsion and is currently an aviation maintenance technician stationed in Alaska. He is seeking his commission and back pay as part of the lawsuit. The academy ultimately did not seek to recoup the cost of his education.

Olson and his family receive about \$3,000 less per month than they would have if he had been granted his commission as an officer, according to the lawsuit.

The case is expected to have implications at other service academies, which have similar policies, according to the ACLU.

"We believe such bans are wrong for every military service academy and that the academies should strike them from their regulations," said Linda Morris, a staff attorney with the ACLU Women's Rights Project.



Richard Hollant's photographs are on exhibit at Charter Oak Cultural Center in "All That Remains." **SUSAN DUNNE PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT**

The impermanence of memory

Richard Hollant's 'All That Remains' photography exhibit focuses on life's fleeting moments

By Susan Dunne Hartford Courant

A photography exhibit that opened Thursday at Charter Oak Cultural Center in Hartford, "All That Remains," reflects on the impermanent nature of memory. Photographer Richard Hollant said the theme fits his own transitory recollections of the photos he took, as well as the medium he used to capture the images.

"They stopped making Polaroid film years ago. You can buy it from people who bought it back then, but it's past its expiration date. There is no guarantee it will still work," Hollant said. "The more enamored I get with Polaroid, the more I find its ephemeral nature. It has a feeling of 'that too will pass'."

What also "will pass" is Hollant's recall of the experiences he captured on film. "My memory fades a lot. It's inconsistent and unreliable," he said. "These photos are all that remain of those moments."

He said he feels the need to "check in on" the images every now and then to remember the place, the time, the minutiae he can't quite grasp. "I remember the feelings I had at those moments. It's with the details that I get mixed up," he said. "So I adjust the images to fit the feelings."

Hollant emphasizes this transmogrification of specifics into emotions by printing the small Polaroid negatives onto massive sheets of paper, rendering central





"The more enamored I get with Polaroid, the more I find its ephemeral nature," said Hollant. "It has a feeling of 'that too will pass."

images grainy and indistinct. The chemicals in the negative, which have crystallized over time, enlarge flaws in the image and obscure small details.

A seemingly mundane image of radiators stacked outside a ramshackle shop, for example, recalls intense feelings in Hollant.

"My friend was living in Massachusetts. He had pancreatic cancer and was in hospice care. We were rushing up there and we got stuck in a massive traffic jam. We were stuck outside this radiator shop without moving for what seemed to be an eternity. So I took a picture," Hollant said. "By the time we got there, Charley was gone. He was no longer lucid."

Looking at another image, Hollant recalls the admiration he felt for one of his late wife's students. Karen Hollant worked as a vocational training manager at American School for the Deaf in West Hartford. She created the Deaf Spirit Club for people both visually and hearing impaired. Laura was one student.

"Karen created the club to arrange social excursions, to cut down on the impact of isolation they felt," Hollant said. "Laura was having a hard time understanding what was happening in the bowling alley. But you could tell she felt it. It made me think of all the work it takes to experience things that the rest of us take for granted."

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C. was the site of another image. While most see a rhinoceros, Hollant sees his son, who was diagnosed at a young age with IF YOU GO: "All That Remains: Life/Study/Photographs by Richard Hollant" is at Charter Oak Cultural Center, 21 Charter Oak Ave. in Hartford through Jan. 13. The gallery will be closed from Dec. 23 to Jan. 2. Find more info at charteroakcenter.org. and richardhollant.com.

neurofibromatosis.

"We would go to the National Institutes of Health once a year, where he would see specialists, physicians, experts. He spent the entire day being poked and prodded, given an MRI. Then he was allowed to step out and be a kid," Hollant said. "We went to the museum one of those times. I think about him when I see the sensitivity of the beast, his toughness."

Many of the photos have one thing in common: Hollant never went to that place again. "They were taken in the moment and then the moment was gone," he said. "I want to believe what is significant about these photos are buried within the image. I see new things whenever I look at them."

Hollant, of West Hartford, is the chair of the City of Hartford's Commission on Cultural Affairs. He also is principal and design director at CO-LAB advertising agency and runs the Free Center on New Britain Avenue in Hartford.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

Ex-Pratt & Whitney worker charged with conspiracy to suppress wages

By Stephen Singer Hartford Courant

A former Pratt & Whitney employee faces federal criminal charges that he conspired with suppliers to restrict the hiring and recruiting of engineers and other chilled workers to suppress years.

skilled workers to suppress wages. Mahesh Patel of Glastonbury, a former director of global engineering services, enforced an agreement as an intermediary between conspiring suppliers, federal prosecutors say. The investigation looked at activities from 2011 to 2019.

Patel appeared Tuesday before a federal court in Hartford after his arrest on charges of conspiracy in

restraint of trade and was released on conditions including travel restrictions and a \$100,000 bond. The charge is the first in the federal antitrust investigation, authorities say.

"The antitrust division, together with our law enforcement partners, have prioritized rooting out conspiracies in labor markets," said Assistant Attorney General Jonathan Kanter of the Justice Department's Antitrust Division. "Here, thousands of workers have been victimized over a long period of time"

"Given the significance of major defense and aerospace companies to Connecticut's economy, it is vital that the labor market in this industry remain fair, open and competitive to our workers," said Peter S. Jongbloed, counsel to the U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut. "No one should be illegally denied the opportunity to pursue better jobs, higher pay and greater benefits."

Southport attorney Brian Spears, who represents Patel, declined to comment.

A spokesman for Raytheon Technologies Corp., the parent company of jet engine manufacturer Pratt & Whitney, said Raytheon is "committed to complying with applicable state and federal laws and is cooperating fully with the government's inquiry."

According to the affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, Patel upheld a conspiracy among aerospace companies in California, Florida and Ohio to not hire or recruit one another's employees.

"At times, Patel confronted and berated suppliers who cheated on the agreement, often at the direct behest of another supplier and threatened to punish nonconforming suppliers by taking away valuable access to projects," authorities said.

Patel and co-conspirators "recognized the mutual financial benefit of this agreement —

namely, reducing the rise in labor costs that would occur when aerospace workers were free to find new employment in a competitive environment," officials said.

Patel "justified the no-hire/ no-recruit agreement by appealing to the wage suppression benefits that it provided to the conspirators, either by referring specifically to wages or salaries or, more broadly, to shared costs or prices," according to an affidavit by a special agent at the Defense Criminal Investigative Services of the Defense Department.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.



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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN

Request for Qualifications from Architects/Engineers to Assist the Housing Authority in Preparation of Plans, Specifications & Contract Documents for Brick Tuck Pointing/Masonry

The Housing Authority of the City of Middletown extends an invitation to architects/ engineers to submit a statement of their qualifications to the Authority. The architect's/ engineer's qualifications should indicate the ability to perform work required in a timely and sufficient manner. The architect/engineer must be licensed to perform services in the State of Conception:

The services being required by the Housing Authority will include but shall not be limited to preliminary studies, schematic design, preparation and design of construction documents, work write-ups, cost estimates, evaluation of construction bids, inspection of materials and workmanship during construction, and post completion documents for the site improvements project scheduled to be completed at Sbona Tower, a 12 story hi-rise. The project will include but is not limited to: survey existing façade/envelope condition, recommend and oversee associated tuck pointing/repairs to existing brick exterior.

The entire procurement procedure and contract award will be subject to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and any and all applicable Federal/State Laws and Regulations. The architect/engineer selected shall comply with: a) the Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Requirements adopted by the Authority in compliance with said order, and b) Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 and the regulations issued thereunder.

Profiles of the firm's principals, staff and facilities must be submitted along with a list of completed projects, especially projects completed with H.U.D. funds. The architect/engineer should specify any work performed under the Comprehensive Grant Program and/or the Comprehensive Improvements Assistance Program. A certified statement that the architect/engineer is not debarred, suspended or otherwise prohibited from professional practice by any Federal, State or local agency must also be submitted. In addition, the following insurance will be required:

- Professional Liability including Errors and Omissions,
 Comprehensive General Liability,
 Automobile Liability,
 Workers Papers Destruction policy,
 Workers' Compensation and Employer Liability policy.

The Architect/Engineer should have previous experience in providing professional services to public housing authorities and must display evidence of knowledge of H.U.D. regulations. Completed current federal GSA Form 330 must be submitted.

Evaluation Criteria:

- 1. Firm's qualifications history and resource capability to perform required services in a timely manner (20 Points).
- 2. Evaluation of staff personnel (20 Points).

 3. H.U.D. experience, including the Comprehensive Grant Program and/or the Capital Fund Program (25 Points).
- 4. Other experience (20 Points) 5. Overall response to RFQ (15 Points).

All interested firms shall submit proposals to: Sbona Tower Brick Tuck Pointing Qualifications
Middletown Housing Authority

40 Broad Street

Middletown, CT 06457

By January 21, 2022 on or before 4:30 PM

Further information may be obtained by calling the Housing Authority at (860) 346-8671 ext. 112

The Housing Authority of the City of Middletown is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and conducts its business in accordance with all Federal, State and Local laws, regulations and guidelines. Section 3, Small, Minority, Women Business Enterprises and Disabled are encouraged to participate in this process. 12/10/21 7102097





860-525-2525

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated December 6, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. to recover on such claim.

Marge B. Calltharp, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Richard Noiin c/o PETER HUNT CHARBONNIER, PETER H CHARBONNIER, ESQ., LLC, 97 MAIN ST, CHESTER, CT 06412

12/10/21 7101542

LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION OLD SAYBROOK ZONING COMMISSION

At the Old Saybrook Zoning Commission meeting of December 6, 2021 the following decision was rendered:

"19 Bridge Street Apartments" Application for modification to Special Exception Permit & Coastal Site Plan Review to add a 1,229 s.f. residential dwelling containing two apartment units.

Assessor's Map 24, Lot 54, Saybrook
Point SP-3 District, CAM Zone, CT River
Gateway Conservation Zone. Applicant: Saybrook Point Marina, LLC. Agent: Attorney David Royston

GRANTED W/ CONDITIONS

12/10/21 7102057

Dated at Old Saybrook, Connecticut this 10th day of December 2021 Robert Friedmann, Chairman

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN

COUNCIL OFFICE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Notice is hereby given that at the regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middletown held on Monday, December 6, 2021, the following action

APPROVED: Technology Services: \$6,000 - Acct. No. 1000-03500-51110; increase IT: Salaries & Wages – Full Time Permanent account to upgrade a vacant Administrative Secretary II position to Administrative Secretary III

Dated at Middletown, Connecticut, this



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Natasha Rothwell thriving thanks to 'Insecure'

Confidence creator gained from series fuels her next steps

By Yvonne Villarreal Los Angeles Times

About five years ago, before "Insecure" secured its place as one of HBO's most acclaimed comedies, series co-creator and star Issa Rae approached staff writer Natasha Rothwell.

Rae and Prentice Penny, the series' showrunner. called Rothwell into Rae's office to tell her she was best suited to play Kelli Prenny, the perennial we-don't-deserve-her supportive friend who brings her unforgettable sense of humor to any interaction of "Insecure's" posse of friends. Up to that point, Rothwell had unofficially brought life to the character in the writers' room and during readings of scripts — and performing as if she wasn't auditioning turned out to be the perfect audition.

"It was so unexpected," Rothwell, now 41, says. "I was giving the kind of tears where it's the ugly cry that's just for yourself. I felt so seen as a whole creator."

In the time since, Rothwell's scene-stealing performance has made Kelli a fan-favorite GIF queen — her line about "growth" from a season two episode is likely circulating in hundreds of text threads at this moment. Now, as "Insecure" nears its end, Rothwell has added another hyphen to her title, as she made her debut as a television director with the Nov. 28 episode.

As Kelli might say, Rothwell is thriving.

She recently signed an overall deal with ABC Signature to develop new television projects through her imprint, Big Hattie



Natasha Rothwell as Kelli in "Insecure." She made her television directorial debut with a recent episode. MERIE W. WALLACE/HBO

Productions. This summer, she earned praise in HBO's buzzy satire "The White Lotus" for her poignant performance as Belinda, the overworked and courteous spa manager at a luxury Hawaiian resort who dreams of opening her own business. And she'll soon appear in the sequel to "Sonic the Hedgehog"; the musical fantasy "Wonka," a prequel to Roald Dahl's "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory;" and "We Were There, Too," a John Hughes-inspired comingof-age story she co-wrote with Gloria Calderon Kellett about "the Brown kids, the LGBTQ kids, the Black kids, the real outsid-

"I think a lot of people are like, 'overnight success,' but I've been at it for a while," she says. "I just never knew that this was in the cards. I knew that if I approached my craft with integrity and intention and (did) my best to honor the

gift that God's given me, that good things would happen, I just didn't know 'good' would be 'great' and 'great' would be 'out of this world.'"

Rothwell was born in Wichita, Kansas, but grew up on Air Force bases from New Mexico to Turkey. Her dad was in the service, so her family became accustomed to a life of change. From an early age, she figured out humor was a dependable ice breaker when meeting new classmates.

"Humor was such an easy way for me to put myself out there," she says. "And it gave me an opportunity to hone my craft and be like, 'What is this audience like?' It was very formative. But it definitely made me a tough sort of nut to crack, because it's hard to be vulnerable and pursue deep relationships when you think you're going to leave, and you are anticipating heartbreak."

It's not lost on Rothwell that she's carried that impermanence into her career, particularly as she processes her most pivotal transition to date.

"I feel like every show is like a military base," she says. "Leaving 'Insecure' is not unfamiliar; I'm used to leaving places and people that I love a lot and know how to take care of those friendships, even if I'm not there."

When "Saturday Night Live" was actively searching for a Black woman to join the cast in 2014, Rothwell auditioned. Sasheer Zamata won the role, but Rothwell made enough of an impression to be offered a spot in the writers room. And though she's careful not to diminish the experience entirely, Rothwell says her short time on the series negatively influenced how she carried herself.

"I didn't want folks to think I got in to satisfy a requirement," Rothwell

keep her brilliance under a lampshade – like, can you imagine?" Rothwell eventually

... squash her talent or try to

found her confidence at "Insecure." And it's fueled her ever since. "The confidence that I had coming into 'White Lotus' ran laps around what I started 'Insecure' with," she says. "Me six years ago would have just said yes to the part, no questions asked. But me now said, 'I need to talk to the director because as a person of color, in a servile position with a homogenous group, I want to make sure we do this right.' ... There's no way I would have had that competence had it not been for 'Insecure.'

As Rothwell took stock of her life and career during quarantine, she began to consider what she wanted the next five years to look like. "I wanted to direct TV. I wanted to direct a movie. I want to be in that space legitimately and be a player in that space," she says. "And so when it came time to direct during the season, I had a fire that I don't think I would have had prior to the pandemic. It was an activator in a very real way."

The episode, Rothwell says, is about choices: "It's sort of the come-to-Jesus moment with Issa, Lawrence and Nathan (Kendrick Sampson), and understanding that you have to stand behind the decisions you make, and also make decisions that are about what you want, and not what you think other people want.... It typifies your 30s: What do I think? What do I feel like? What do I want? What do you want?""

Now, Rothwell is learning how to answer those questions. And you know what that is? Growth.

CELEBRITIES

Scott unaware of deaths till after show

From news services

Rapper Travis Scott said in an interview that he didn't know that fans had died at his Astroworld festival in Houston until after his performance.

In a lengthy interview with radio personality Charlamagne Tha God posted on YouTube Thursday, Scott described from his perspective what happened at the Nov. 5 festival that left 10 people dead.

"It wasn't really until minutes before the press conference until I figured out exactly what happened. Even after the show, you're just kind of hearing things, but I didn't know the exact details until minutes before the press conference," he said.

He said he paused the performance a couple of times, but he couldn't hear fans screaming for help.

"I stopped like a couple of times just to make sure everybody was OK," said Scott. "I just really go off the fans energy as a collective, you know? Call and response. I just didn't, I

just didn't hear that." Scott was the headliner and creator of the Astroworld festival, where 50,000 people were in the audience. Scott's set turned deadly as fans surged toward the stage. The youngest victim was Ezra Blount, 9. The others who died ranged in age from 14 to 27.

Scott said he had private discussions with some of the families of the victims. He also said that he understood why some families declined his offer to pay for funeral expenses.

Scott said that he wants to know more about what caused the deaths and be a leader in finding ways to prevent similar tragedies from happening at other live events.

"I have a responsibility to figure out what happened here. I have a



Rapper Travis Scott performs Nov. 5 at the Astroworld Music Festival in Houston. AMY HARRIS/INVISION

responsibility to figure out the solution," said Scott.

Starr shares tribute to Lennon: Ringo Starr shared a short and sweet tribute to his Beatles bandmate John Lennon, who died 41 years ago Wednesday. Starr posted a vintage photo showing him on the drums and Lennon on the guitar in a Twitter post. "Peace and love my friend," Starr captioned the photo.

Lennon was fatally shot on Dec. 8, 1980, in New York City. The official Twitter account for Lennon also honored the iconic musician and songwriter, sharing a series of photos and retweeting numerous tributes on Wednesday.

Miller settles phone hacking claim: Actor Sienna Miller on Thursday accepted "substantial" damages from the publisher of British tabloid newspaper The Sun, which she accuses of hacking her phone and leaking

news of her pregnancy. Miller, whose films include "Factory Girl," "Black Mass" and "The Lost City of Z," joins a list of dozens of people who have received payments from News Group Newspapers over illegal eavesdropping that took place over a decade ago. News Group Newspapers has paid millions of pounds to settle lawsuits from hacking victims.

Miller, 39, said she felt "fully vindicated" after the publisher agreed to pay her undisclosed "substantial damages" without admitting liability.

Dec. 10 birthdays: Actor Fionnula Flanagan is 80. Actor Gloria Loring is 75. Drummer Walter "Clyde" Orange is 75. Singer Johnny Rodriguez is 70. Actor Susan Dey is 69. Director Kenneth Branagh is 61. TV chef Bobby Flay is 57. Drummer Meg White is 47. Actor Gavin Houston is 44. Actor Raven-Symone is 36. Actor Kiki Layne is 30.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

recalls. "I wanted to show

that I belonged. I wanted

to be at the table at 'SNL'

and I wanted them to think.

.. She's funny. I like what

she has to say. And I see her

and, oh, that joke is great.'

That's a lot to carry. And I

think that's also an expres-

sion of privilege for white

writers: They don't know

what it's like to walk into a

room and feel like the audi-

tion is not over. I didn't feel

hand up was me wanting to

know if my voice could be

"I remember saying,

'Girl, you don't have to raise

your hand like that. Why do

you keep raising your hand?

emphasizing that Rothwell

was the first writer hired

for "Insecure." "And she's

like, 'Well, because at my

to speak. I had to kind of

ask, "Can I speak?"' That

room to hear that. The idea

that anybody would try to

broke our hearts in the

last show, I wasn't allowed

Just say it," says Penny,

heard."

seen, always. Putting my

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Abusive ex-husband wants to share cabin

Dear Amy: I was married to "Bart" for several years. We divorced some time ago. Last year we got back together but did not remarry.

As it had always been our dream to buy a cabin in the woods, last year we found a property to purchase.

We split the cost equally. A month ago, he beat me up, threatened to kill me, and kicked me out with no

money or job. Fortunately, I had kept my apartment. He has an RV on the property where

the cabin is located. Now he is telling me it's all in the past. He wants me to come back, forgive and

forget. Nope. I want to sell the property, and he is refusing. He says he will never leave, that it's half mine and I can come back anytime, and when he dies, he will leave his half to his three sons.

What must I do? I want to sell and be done with this horrible nightmare.

Dear R: You should call the police and a lawyer. Consider a restraining order and filing charges. Cut off all personal contact with this man.

You don't note whether your investment in this property involved you actually co-owning it with your name on the deed, or whether it was a more casual arrangement with you contributing half of the cost of the property.

You should gather any documentation regarding money you spent on this cabin and – working with a lawyer — see if there is a way for you to recover any

or all of it.

Dear Amy: We are in the middle of a parenting conflict with my wife's

sister and her husband. Both families — theirs and ours - have two children between the ages 3

My wife and I run a tight ship. They don't.

We value manners and respect, while they value freedom of expression.

We have tolerated these other values, but over the vears we have seen their behavior affect our children's and our happiness to the point where we limit contact with them.

Recently, we told them that while they are entitled to raise their children as they wish, it's our choice whether we want to be a part of it. We have told them that their children are no longer welcome in our house.

My wife and I believe that it is inappropriate for a young child to barge into another person's house, with no manners or regard for others, and behave in a way that we don't let our own children behave.

The other parents don't feel we have the right to impose behavioral expectations, so now we are at a distant impasse.

We would appreciate your thoughts. – Mad Dad

Dear Dad: I'm not sure what the impasse is if you simply won't allow these children into your home.

If they don't come into the home, then — congratulations — no impasse!

If these siblings barge into your home without being brought by a parent (hard to imagine at their young ages), then you could either take them

home, or wait with them on the porch while you call their folks to come and get

I understand the challenge of being around young children who are extremely active or poorly behaved, but you seem almost too upset over this.

These are very young children. You and your wife are their uncle and aunt. Save a shred of kindness for these children. They are behaving the way they are being raised to behave.

Meet them at the playground or at the ball pit, where they can express themselves freely without disrupting your household.

Dear Amy: Like others, I am disturbed by your kneejerk response to "Totally Confused Mom," whose adult daughters claimed to have been traumatized in their youth. It's not always the parents' fault! Upset

Dear Upset: Many people have responded to this topic, most raising the same point: It can't always be the parents' fault.

I'm wondering if perhaps there is also a change in parents' expectations of how close their children should remain to them in adulthood.

Previous generations got by with phone calls or letters. Young adults were expected to figure out their own problems. It's possible that some young adults are trying to separate from their folks.

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Brittney Spencer 'so new the tag is still on me'

Rising country star credits veteran Black women in industry

By Dan Deluca The Philadelphia Inquirer

Brittney Spencer has yet to release her debut album, but the singer has already established herself as a rising country music star.

"I'm really new," Spencer says. "Like, I'm so new the tag is still on me."

Spencer's In a Perfect World tour — her first as a headliner — recently kicked off in New York.

When Spencer speaks about her newness, she's referring to the speed of her arrival in the spotlight. Although she moved to Nashville, Tennessee, in 2013, she didn't release her first original song, "Compassion," until July

And she got her first measure of fame in October of that year, when her cover of The Highwomen's "Crowded Table" was amplified online by the group's Amanda Shires, and Maren Morris gave Spencer a shout out at the **Country Music Association** Awards later that month.

But Spencer, who USA Today cited as one of "12 Black artists shaping country music's future" and who Nashville's Music Row magazine recently named as a 2022 Next Big Thing, also means that she's a new arrival compared to many fellow Black country and Americana artists who are getting deserved attention at the forefront of a genre of which Black artists have often been shut out.

"My feeling is that we've always been here," Spencer

Along with contemporary country stars like Jimmie Allen, who is a best new artist Grammy nominee, and Kane Brown, she credits veteran Black women who are finally gaining a measure of music industry acceptance.

Such as Allison Russell, who earned three Grammy nominations, and her good



Madeline Edwards, from left, Mickey Guyton and Brittney Spencer perform Nov. 10 at the CMA Awards in Nashville, Tennessee. Spencer was cited by USA Today as one of "12 Black artists shaping country music's future." MARK HUMPHREY/AP

friend Mickey Guyton, who last year became the first Black woman ever nominated for solo country performance for "Black Like Me." And also Rissi Palmer, the country singer who centers "the Black, Indigenous, and Latinx histories of country music" on her Apple Music radio show Color Me Country.

"There are so many artists who have been out here and doing this for a while," Spencer says.

Country has been a genre dominated by white artists, but Black performers have played key roles going back to original Grand Ole Opry member DeFord Bailey on to Ray Charles' Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music in the early 1960s and the long career

of Charley Pride and recent success of Darius Rucker.

But a new examination of country's past and future started taking place last year as part of the racial reckoning taking place in all aspects of American society.

"I think race became the number one talking point during the pandemic ... and George Floyd and Ahmaud Arbery were at the forefront," Spencer says. "It just became so prevalent in music and specifically country music. And then Mickey put out 'Black Like Me' and that shattered a ceiling.'

Growing up in Baltimore, Spencer sang in church and studied opera.

"I struggled with anxiety most of my life," she

says. "Music was my saving grace, my little refuge. As a teenager I was listening to Maria Callas and Ray Charles and the ... Chicks and Britney Spears and John Mayer and Beyonce and Diana Ross.

"I wanted to learn as much as I could. I would just dive into everything, and I found a home in country music because I started writing songs and writing poetry, and I loved

Two key artists opened a door to country, Spencer says. Taylor Swift "was so poetic and from Pennsylvania and didn't have a twang. Something about that piqued my curiosity." Alt-R&B singer India.Arie "was the closest thing I had of someone who was

remotely country or folkish who looked like me. When you don't have represen-

places. Spencer quit her job working at a Baltimore health care company and moved to Nashville after watching documentaries about Swift and Reba McEntire.

tation, you find bits and

pieces in a million different

The long road to overnight success followed. She worked in customer service and coffee shops, and concentrated on guitar playing and songwriting. She sang backups on tour with R&B singer Carl Thomas and Carrie Underwood at awards shows. She came into her own

during the pandemic. "I'm a quarantine artist," she says. "Being an artist at this time is just so unconventional for everybody. But I'm like, 'Dude this is all I know.' It's the norm for

Her "Compassion" EP includes a rumination on gun violence called "Thoughts and Prayers," and she has generated buzz with "Sober & Skinny," which inspired the title of her tour. "In a perfect world, you get sober and I get skinny," she sings.

And she also shone in numerous recent star turns. Last month, she brought the house down at the Country Music Hall of Fame in a tribute to songwriter Dean Dillon with a soaring performance of "Tennessee Whiskey." Country legend Brenda Lee shouted out from the audience: "Let's all go home. I give up. I quit!"

She'll sign a record deal soon, and with a stockpile of songs, plans to put out new music in 2022.

She's got dates early next year opening for McEntire. "Now my heroes have my phone number," she says,

with pinch-me enthusiasm. Spencer's upcoming shows have a lot to live up to in order to top the CMA Awards last month. She joined Guyton and Madeline Edwards for Guyton's "Love My Hair," in a primetime performance. The trio were introduced by Faith Fennidy, the Louisiana girl who inspired Guyton to write the song after being sent home from school for her braided hair exten-

"We've all experienced things that have invalidated our presence, our existence in this space," Spencer says. "This is our story. It was a beautiful moment. I'll never forget the significance. Being on the CMA awards, considering the history of country music.

"We're part of the future. I'm new, and it's an honor to be able to establish my presence on a song that says, 'Hey, I'm a Black woman, and I love that about me, and I love country music."

'Harlem' can't avoid 'Sex and the City,' but surpasses it in key ways

Los Angeles Times

HBO's bar-setting series "Sex and the City" recently returned with "And Just Like That...," a limited series reboot of the '90s comedy about four single women navigating love and careers in New York City. But this review isn't about that show — or "Girls" or 'Run the World" or any of the other series that have turned "comedy featuring four single women navigating love and careers in New York City" into a

familiar TV trope. The Black women of "Harlem," a 10-episode streaming comedy that recently premiered on Amazon, are decades younger than - and a few ZIP codes apart from - Carrie, Miranda and Charlotte. But they still eloquently saunter and drunkenly stumble in the stilettoed footsteps of those 20th-century, Cosmopolitan-sipping pioneers. The question is whether adjunct anthropology professor Camille (Meagan Good); successful queer dating app creator Tye (Jerrie Johnson); trust fund fashion designer Quinn (Grace Byers); and out-of-work singer-actor Angie (Shoniqua Shandai) have anything to add to the sisterhood-in-the-city playbook.

The answer: Absolutely, though the clunky pilot episode of "Harlem" may lead you to believe otherwise. The characters at first appear cast from the mold used by HBO more than 20 years ago: Camille is the responsible one who overthinks things, pining after her ex and making bad choices when she second-guesses herself. (She is also, in a move that can't help but call to mind Carrie Bradshaw, the series' voice-



Meagan Good in "Harlem." SARAH SHATZ/AMAZON

over.) Tye is a disciplined, confident businesswoman with a commitment problem. Quinn still openly believes in true love, even in the world of scammy dating apps. And Angie has no edit button, especially when talking about men, sex, men and more sex.

But "Harlem," created by "Girls Trip" writer Tracy Oliver, eventually has much more to offer than a modern Black overlav on a beloved but very white series. Each character grows more interesting as the series proceeds thanks to strong character development and sharp writing, and the chemistry among the performers becomes the bond that carries the show as the women become entangled in one another's relationship disasters and work dilemmas. "Harlem" also tweaks the girls-in-thecity formula by adding a gay character to the inner

circle with Tye. It also underscores the limitations of "SATC's" whitewashed New York: Some of "Harlem's" most fascinating conversations and scenarios deal with the characters' varying, and anything but static, ideas of Blackness - culturally, personally, comically. The gentrification of Harlem

is part of the story here too. Locals are getting priced out of the neighborhood and landmarks are being snapped up by chain stores.

But "Harlem" doesn't drown in its social consciousness, either. Camille's excited that the new head of her department at Columbia is a Black woman (Whoopi Goldberg) until she finds that she has to jump through just as many if not more —hoops to impress her. The professor organizes a rally against gentrification to impress her boss, but before giving her speech, she has to correct the impassioned claims of the previous speaker: No, Black men did not invent food, she informs the crowd.

Dating provides more of the quick-witted banter that makes this series pop. Hopeful romantic Quinn keeps getting catfished, so when she finally connects with a real, flesh-andblood man on a video chat, her friends cheer. Then they stop short and assess their reason for the joyous outburst: "It's a sad day for society when all a man has to do (to be good) is exist."

Where to watch: Amazon Prime Video

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19): Put your desires front and center today! Think about what brings you the most fulfillment, something that makes your heart sing with joy, and focus all your energy into bringing it closer to you. Step outside your comfort zone.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Positive energy is bounding your way at this very moment, and it looks as though it won't be arriving all by itself. These beautiful possibilities are going to be directed at you from other people, most likely from a friend or a friend of a friend. Its a wonderful day to give someone a call and make up for any lost time.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): The stars are pushing you up the career ladder today, and you'd do well to let them give you a boost. Skillfully completed jobs might be noticed by a supervisor or other VIP. which could translate into a nice raise or bonus for vou. Theres no reason to rest on your laurels!

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Get your act together. Make sure that you've been taking proper care of yourself. You dont need to live a completely ascetic existence, but you should be doing what you can to have achievable goals. If you've wandered a bit too far into indulgent territory, its time to get back on track.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): You may feel driven forward today, but that doesn't mean you need to climb every mountain. Rather, it's time to do a check-in and see if those goals are actually waiting for you at the end of the path you're on. Take a step back and get some perspective, then start again.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You're welcome to

take things slow and not rush through anythingalthough youve never been one to lose track of the details. The mood should pick up come the evening, however, giving you a burst of energy that may inspire you to turn your attention toward your own desires. Do something!

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Focus more on your relationships with the important people in your life. Consider checking to see if the scales are balanced and whether or not everyone's pulling their appropriate weight while still enjoying the connection. It's alright to call them out and improve the situation.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Positivity is coming your way today! Don't let any doldrums take center stage - not when you deserve to be the star. Take control of your day by stepping into the spotlight and putting on a little show, even just an impromptu one, to remind people how capable you are.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Things are probably better than you think. Dive in and immerse yourself in it. There could be issues you've been procrastinating solving. Give them some attention to see what you can fix and what might need some outsourcing. If you leave things for too long you might get burned.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. **19):** Check in with anyone you might have lost touch with over the last year or so. You don't need to show up with your hat in hand. apologizing. You'll probably have a lot of fun once you get on the phone and start catching up. They might even have something important to tell you, so reach out.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): There is some very beautiful energy impacting you in rather fantastical ways. Instead of trying to push or pull in one specific direction, give yourself permission to be flexible and see how things unfold. Something you're not aware of could greatly benefit you in the long run.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Ask yourself what really matters to you and what's just for fun. When was the last time you took a step back to look at your goals? An opportunity for clarification in your life is at hand, as long as you remember who you are. This time, you are the main character!

TODAY IN **HISTORY**

Associated Press

On Dec. 10, 1950, Ralph J. Bunche was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, becoming the first Black American to receive the award.

In 1964. Martin Luther King Jr. received his Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, saying he accepted it "with an abiding faith in America and an audacious faith in the future of mankind."

In 1994, Yasser Arafat, Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin received the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 1996, South African President Nelson Mandela signed the country's new constitution into law.

In 2005, actor-comedian Richard Pryor died in California at age 65.

In 2007, former Vice President Al Gore accepted the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 2019, House Democrats announced two articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump; Trump responded with a tweet of "WITCH HUNT!"

BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at <u>PlayJumble.com</u>



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By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurel

YOUR BOGGLE RATING

BOGGLE POINT SCALE 9+ letters = 15 points

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

Find AT LEAST FOUR RODENTS in the grid of letters.

rat gerbil béaver Hamster

6 2 WardWheel

SISONAYH

Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise

WORD SEARCH

DISNEY CHARACTERS Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or

diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them. ALDLJUOIHCCONIPTA LYPEELSTPOCHJLHMN LYPPAHHLTXZIPTZ IUUMQEMPIG REGMMTPEIIPGCH EYPPOMEDNBGEPABKY DOEDAISYMEMJGL RSRNQCHRDGAHA ETNBREDVUB U B IRKOSSELA P M L C C Y O C J Y N D D I S 0 G GOKUFBOUOTWELNA OELOMYEKC IMWE TEOUBPACKYDALZNCP SGDKOOHNIATPAC A D L E R E M S E L T S A E B P D DEWEYYEPODAILGWOM

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HAPPY

PINOCCHIO PLUTO POCAHONTAS SLEEPY **SNEEZY THUMPER**

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DALE

DEWEY

MINNIE

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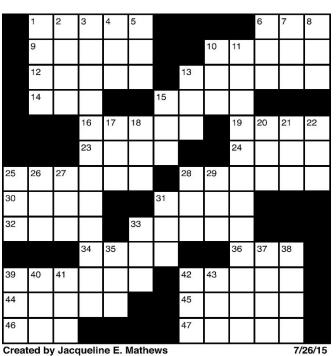
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

MOWGLI

PIGLET

TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

- **ACROSS** 1 Fred Mertz's wife
- _ Age: Continental Drift"; animated film
- 9 Fragrance
- 10 Late television host David __
- 12 Fannies 13 "The __ Woman"; Lindsay
- Wagner series
- 14 Bruce or Brandon
 15 Harmon __; role on "JAG"
 16 "I, __"; Will Smith movie
 19 Actress Deborah
- _ City"
- 24 Actress Kathryn
- 25 Actor Danny ___ 28 "Who's __ of Virginia Woolf?"
- 30 Cheese from Holland
- 31 "Star __: Voyager" 32 Actor Robert __ 33 Juliet's love
- 34 Setting for "The King and I"
 36 Mario ___ Peebles
- 39 Costello's partner 42 Steeple 44 Martin and Cain

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- 45 Treaties
- 46 "The New Adventures of __ Christine"
- 47 Fireplace residue
- DOWN
- "My Name Is __"
 "__ Detective"; HBO series for
- Woody Harrelson
- Marge's man Napoleon's title: abbr.
- "__ Vegas"
 Saturn __; GM compact car
 Series for Robert David Hall
- And so forth: abbr. 10 Little lie
- 11 Actor on "NCIS: New Orleans" _ Masterson"
- 15 Howard or Glass for: choose
- 18 Brief life sketch
- 20 Historical period
- 21 Baseball stat.
- 22 Crime thriller for Bruce Willis and Morgan Freeman
- 25 Last calendar page: abbr.26 Last letters in a university's e-
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- 27 Actor Kilmer
- 28 Upper limb 29 Charge
- 31 Selleck or Conti 33 Traitor 35 "__ Alv
- _ Always Sunny in
- Philadelphia"
 37 Johnson of "Rowan & Martin's
 Laugh-In"
- 38 Eliot ___; Robert Stack's role on "The Untouchables" 39 "Much __ About Nothing"

43 Faux __; social blunder

- 40 "The Fresh Prince of __-Air" 41 "__ Teacher" 42 Jacuzzi

DISNEY CHARACTERS

DAISY

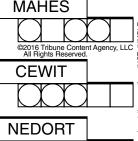
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SENTIMENT

JUMBLE

one letter to each square.



HEYCAP

THE ANTISOCIAL OCTOPUS WELCOMED THE UNEXPECTED VISITOR Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Jumbles: SHAME TWICE RODENT PEACHY Answer: The antisocial octopus welcomed the unexpected visitor — WITH OPEN ARMS

ARROW WORDS

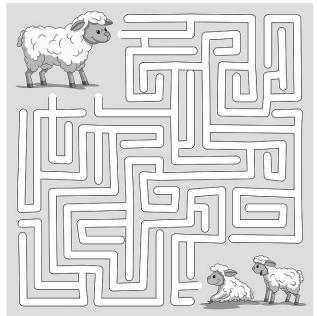
Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

Allow to Z's worsen Lyricist Sershwir St Louis attraction Stop sigr e.g. Eggy qua Mosey Belittle 'Friends' spinoff Tennis's Sampras "Blowin' the Wind songwrite Many a time Invoice amount ©2019 Knight Features. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency.

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KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



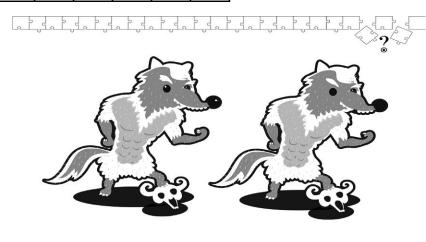


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for kids





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10/20/19

Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz













Garfield By Jim Davis





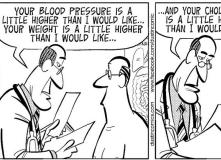


Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly





Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker

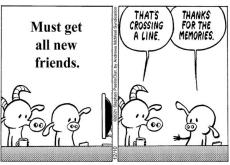




Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis

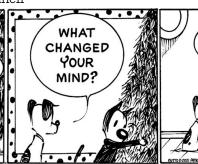






Mutts By Patrick McDonnell







Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt













Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley









Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall





Dilbert By Scott Adams







Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman





Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty





Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley





Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos







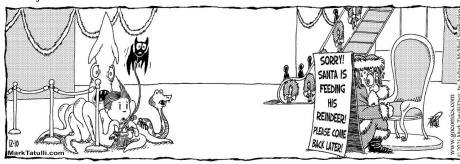
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk





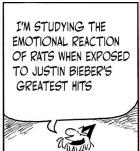


Lio By Mark Tatulli



Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



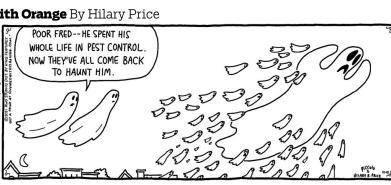




Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



99



Monty By Jim Meddick





For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston







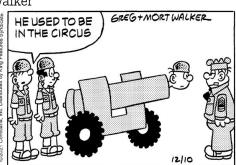






Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker





Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne





Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne





Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller



W! LEY @ 2021 WILEY INK, LTD. /2-10

Curtis By Ray Billingsley









Pickles By Brian Crane









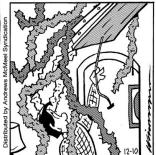
Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer







Mother Goose And Grimm By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

- Bookmarked item
- 4 Commuting option "Gone With the
- Wind" feature Wee Reese 14 Old Icelandic
- text 15 Discussion-
- ending word Bud 4 life
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- 20 Food bits Relocation 22
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- 41 Bother a lot 42 Marquee
- name _War": Jules Verne-
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- tioner? 54 Cheaply, after "for"
- 57 Bash 58 Past time
- 59 What an education budget provides?
- 62 Cold air quality

63 Get into gear 8 Immunization 64 Health factor letters

65 31-Down, e.g.:

Abbr.

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68 Remote

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1 What a "V"

violin music

2 Type of optical

3 Mouse activities

4 One whistling

5 First president

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White House

6 "... a tale told

Macbeth

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7 Caterpillar, say

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 - 11 User-edited site 12 Hang loosely
 - 16 Paris' Pont __ Arts
 - 19 Still
 - 21 Keep from scoring
 - 25 Hairy legend 26 Summertime treat
 - 29 Figure in many devotional paintings
 - 30 Reagan-era mil. program
 - 31 Rank above cpl.
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 - cases
 - 33 Pelt 35 Things few understand
- I-75 cross 60 Early RCA

36 Ed.'s stack

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54 Braver 55 Atlantic fish

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56 Where I-70 and

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39 Facts

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time unit: Abbr.

- output
- 61 Farm enclosure

16 18 65

By Jeffrey Wechsler

Tribune Content Agency 12/10/21

BRIDGE

Bidding quiz

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Seven Hearts, and North leads the nine of trump. How would you play the hand?

West East [S]74 [S] A K 8 5 [H] A K Q J 10 [H] 42 [D] A K [D] 852

[C] AKQ765 [C]83 2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the gueen of diamonds, on which South plays the seven. How would you play the hand?

West East ISLAK 121013 [H]J874 [H]A65 [D] A 9 6 2 [D] 83 [C] 10 9 8 7 5 [C]AQJ

1. You have a choice between drawing all the adverse trumps and hoping that the missing clubs are divided 3-2, or winning the trump lead and then playing the A-K and another spade, planning to ruff in dummy. The danger in the latter line of play is that if the opposing spades are divided 5-2 or 6-1, either defender may ruff the second or third lead. This is a matter of percentages. There is a 68% chance that the adverse clubs are divided 3-2, but only a 62% chance of the spades dividing 4-3. Because the favorable club division is more likely than the favorable spade division, the best approach is to draw trump and rely

2. You can count nine potential tricks: four clubs, three spades, a heart and a diamond. The problem is how to collect them, as both black suits are blocked, and you are short of entries to dummy. You might not be able to achieve your goal if the North-South cards are divided unfavorably, but careful play

on the clubs to break 3-2 rather than try to

ruff a spade in dummy.

will nevertheless give you an excellent chance. You start by winning the queen of diamonds with the ace, since there is almost no chance that North-South can cash more than three diamond tricks. Furthermore, taking the first trick avoids the possibility that North might shift to a heart and drive out your only entry to dummy's club and spade tricks.

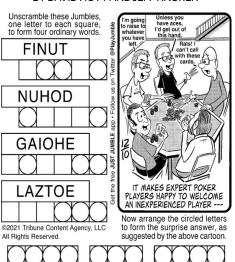
Next you play the A-K of spades and A-O of clubs. If the club queen loses to the king, your worries are over, because whenever you get to dummy with a heart, you can discard your bothersome iack of clubs on dummy's queen of spades to unblock the club suit. If the club queen holds the trick, you continue with the jack, forcing out the king if the missing clubs are divided 3-2.

Observe that it is vital to cash your A-K of spades early; if you fail to do so, you might find yourself unable to unblock the clubs later on.

Tomorrow: Be thankful for small favors.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



(Answers tomorrow) MATTER SENTRY Jumbles: SILKY **IGLOO** Yesterday's With so many cases on the docket, the court system was experiencing — TRYING TIMES

TODAY'S SUDOKU

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			1	4	6		9		
			7			2	5		
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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strate gies on how to solve Sudoku visit www.sudoku.org.uk

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE 3 4 2 2 4 8 6 7 1 9 3 5 8 2 7 1 9 6 3 5 4 4 1 9 5 3 7

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



whipped cream had another brainstorm

in the 1960s: Reddi-Bacon.



10 Things You Might Not Know About Nearly Everything

contains a plethora of tidbits and trivia that will appeal to everyone, from history buffs to sports fans to foodies. From lighthearted topics such as misspellings and extreme eating, to serious subjects such as WWII and prison, this book leaves readers brighter and wittier than ever before.



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FACT #84

A cardigan worn by a man is sometimes called a mandigan.

FACT #147

When someone uses chitchat, noises, or mannerisms to distract or mislead an opponent during poker or another game, it's called "coffeehousing."

FACT #178

Genuphobia is the fear of knees.

FACT #238

Actress Marilyn Monroe colored her hair using a shade of blond called dirty pillow slip.

FACT #279

Before Sir Thomas More was beheaded in 1535, he moved his lengthy beard aside, saying it "had never committed any treason."

FACT #302

Tweety Bird, the animated Looney Tunes character, was originally pink. But censors complained that Tweety looked naked, so animators gave the bird yellow feathers.

FACT #408

Joe Charbonneau, a Belvedere, Ill., native, who played outfield for the Cleveland Indians in the early '80s, used to open beer bottles with his eye socket and drink beer through a straw in his nose.

FACT #459

When actor Clint Eastwood ran for mayor of Carmel, California, in 1986, a major issue was ice cream. Town leaders had banned the sale of ice cream cones, incensing Eastwood and his supporters. They won and overturned the ordinance.

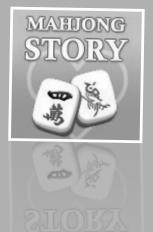
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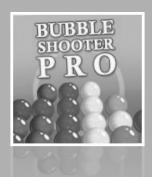
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SPORTS

COURANT.COM/SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Business of winning has been good to Bloomfield

School looks for its 10th title on Saturday

By Dom Amore Hartford Courant

 ${\tt BLOOMFIELD-The\,wet\,snow}$ was falling and the temperature plummeting as Bloomfield's football players ran their plays under the lights without complaint Wednesday, no tucking hands or

"It makes being in a cold practice a lot easier when you have football players who have been through this throughout their lives,' Bloomfield coach Ty Outlaw said. "They're really close. You can look around, they're all doing something to each other, engaging with each other. They love hitting each other and being out here with each

High school football championships

All games on Saturday At Veterans Stadium, New Britain

Class L: No. 5 Windsor (11-1) vs. No. 3 Maloney (11-1), 11 a.m. Class M: No. 2 Rockville (10-2) vs. No. 1 Killingly (11-0), 3 p.m. At Trumbull High Class S: No. 2 Cromwell/ Portland (12-0) vs. No. 1

Bloomfield (12-0), 11 a.m.

Class LL: No. 3 Darien (11-1) vs. No. 1 Fairfield Prep (11-1), 3 p.m.

other. I've had teams that would be complaining that it's cold. But no one's complaining, everybody's doing their job. That is what's special about this team."

At Bloomfield, the job is winning. This year's team has done it as well as any of its predecessors — with one more task to be completed. The Warhawks (12-0) will play Cromwell/Portland (12-0) for the school's 10th state football title in the CIAC Class S championship game on Saturday at Trumbull High at 11 a.m.

"Everybody's mindset coming into this season was staying with each other, work hard, don't get cocky when we win games," running back Dallas Rose said. "Treat every opponent the same."

This is something the Warhawks have certainly done. After edging Bristol Central 7-6 in their season opener, they won the next 10 games by an average margin of 39.9

Turn to Bloomfield, Page 6



Bloomfield head coach Ty Outlaw celebrates during the closing seconds of a Class S semifinal win over New Fairfield last weekend. It was his 100th win. STAN GODLEWSKI/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

PATRIOTS

More things change, more they stay the same

While ego, drama gone from locker room, the winning has remained

By Ben Volin Boston Globe

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. -Bill Belichick was giving his postgame speech in the locker room moments after the recent win over the Titans when he turned his attention to Kendrick Bourne, whose 41-yard touchdown reception had changed the game's momen-

"Where is my man? Where's KB?" Belichick said.

Bourne popped into the middle of the team huddle, and Belichick gave him a big hug, then a stiff-arm — an inside joke between them. The rest of the team erupted in cheers.

The Patriots sure have been in a good mood over the last month. Of course, it's a lot easier to love your teammate, and to listen to your coaches, when you're winning seven games in a row and ascending into the No. 1 seed in the AFC.

But winning doesn't always beget this much joy. Remember the 2019 season, when the Patriots began 8-0 but Tom Brady was the "most miserable 8-0 quarterback in the NFL"?

This year's team, 9-4 entering this weekend's bye, has no such frustrations.

"I can't talk enough about how close this group is, the love that we have for one another," running back Damien Harris said recently. "When [Jakobi Meyers] scored his first touchdown, you saw it. Everybody was on the [field]. The sideline was completely empty — I mean, completely empty. I think that play kind of embodies the spirit of this team."

It's ironic, because the most recent Patriots championship teams ultimately split up because some of the key players weren't having fun anymore. Rob Gronkowski cried at a

Turn to Patriots, Page 2

Up next



■ Inside: Latest news from the Giants. Page 2

GEORGIA TECH 57, NO. 3 UCONN WOMEN 44



UConn coach Geno Auriemma talks to forward Dorka Juhasz (during the first half against Georgia Tech on Thursday in Atlanta. JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Injury causes more pain

Bueckers-less UConn falls to Georgia Tech in first loss to unranked team since 2012

By Alexa Philippou Hartford Courant

ATLANTA — The first game of the (temporary) Paige Bueckers-less era as she recovers from a tibial plateau fracture that'll keep her out six to eight weeks spelled

- by UConn standards - catastrophe.

The No. 3 Huskies fell to Georgia Tech, 57-44, in Atlanta, suffering their first loss to an unranked opponent since losing to St. John's on Feb. 18, 2012 and snapping a streak of 240 consecutive wins versus unranked opponents.

In what was Winder, Ga., native Olivia Nelson-Ododa's homecoming game, UConn — with only eight healthy players and no true point guards — was tied with Georgia Tech 39-39 going into the fourth. The Huskies then failed to score from the field until the 1:21 mark of the frame, in that same span committing eight fouls and six turnovers, as Georgia Tech ran away with it. The Huskies were ultimately outscored 18-5 in the fourth, with Evina Westbrook

scoring all their points. With the Huskies lost offensively most of the night, the Yellow Jackets became the first team to hold UConn to under 45 points since 2006.

"We're disorganized, that's the

biggest thing I can tell you," coach Geno Auriemma said. "We're disorganized as a group right now, from the coaching on down, everybody. There's just no sense of we have a plan of how we're going to execute, how we're going to get a bucket, who's going to get it for us."

It was the second time this season UConn collapsed at the end of the game and scored five or fewer points in the final frame (previously, the Huskies scored

Turn to UConn, Page 4

UCONN MEN'S BASKETBALL

Huskies search for identity when without their stars

By Shreyas Laddha Hartford Courant

Sometimes you just have to tip your cap to your opponent and call it a learning experience.

UConn lost a heartbreaker, 56-53, to West Virginia on Wednesday at West Virginia Coliseum while down two stars in Adam Sanogo (abdominal strain) and Tyrese Martin (wrist), who are out for multiple weeks due to injuries.

For the 8-2 Huskies, it was the perfect opportunity for other players to step up and showcase how the team would perform in a tough road matchup against a quality opponent.

It wasn't a win, but for a team without two of its scoring weapons, UConn played a competitive game. On the other hand, the Huskies do have some glaring issues they need to fix. Here are some thoughts, questions and takeaways from Wednesday's loss.

Ball handling issues

UConn's lack of ball handlers

Up next



St. Bonaventure vs. UConn 3:30 p.m. Sat., ESPN2

came to surface right away against a tough West Virginia defense. The 8-1 Mountaineers had their famous press throughout the game and seemed to have a simple plan: Make somebody other than guard R.J. Cole beat them. West Virginia sent multiple double teams and had traps at half court that made

Cole had five turnovers, while the Huskies ended the game with 16. For a team that was struggling with taking care of the ball, it's a wonder why freshman guard Rahsool Diggins played zero minutes. Diggins can score and is seen as a playmaker with the ball in

his hands. His presence would have

been great to have as the Huskies

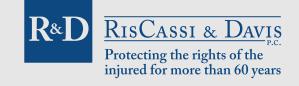
struggled to find a shot late in the

Cole and company uncomfortable.

game, leading to multiple shot clock Turn to Huskies, Page 4

Safety Tip of the Day

When buying art supplies as gifts, make sure all crayons, markers, or other supplies are labeled non-toxic.



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UP NEXT

Patriots: Bye; at Colts, Dec. 18, 8:15 p.m. Giants: at Chargers, Sunday, 4:05 p.m. Jets: Saints, Sunday,

UConn MBB: Never Forget Tribute Classic: vs. St. Bonaventure (Newark, N.J.), Saturday, 3:30 p.m.; Providence (XL), Dec. 18, 5 p.m.; at Marquette, Dec. 21, 9 p.m. **UConn WBB:** Never Forget Tribute Classic: vs. UCLA (Newark, N.J.), Saturday, 1 p.m.;

Basketball HoF Women's Showcase: vs. Louisville (Mohegan Sun), Dec. 19, 3:30 p.m.; Marquette (XL), Dec. 29, 7 p.m. **Celtics:** at Suns, Friday, 10 p.m.; Bucks, Monday,

17, 7:30 p.m. Knicks: at Raptors, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Bucks, Sunday, noon; Warriors, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.; Warriors, Dec.

Nets: at Hawks, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; at Pistons, Sunday, 6 p.m.; Raptors, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

UConn hockey: at Harvard, Jan. 2, 7 p.m.; at Boston Coll., Jan. 8, 4 p.m.; Boston Univ., Jan. 14, 7 p.m.

Bruins: at Flames. Saturday, 10 p.m.; Knights, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; at Islanders, Thursday, 7:30 p.m

Rangers: at Sabres, Friday, 7 p.m.; Predators, Sunday, 7 p.m.; at Avalanche, Tuesday,

Wolf Pack: at Lehigh Valley, Sunday, 3 p.m.; Lehigh Valley, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.; at Springfield, Dec. 18, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO **AUTO RACING**

7:55 a.m.: Formula 1 Racing Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Practice 2. (Sameday Tape) ESPNU **BASKETBALL**

11 a.m.: North Shelby at Crane. (Same-day Tape) **ESPNU**

12:30 p.m.: Link Academy at PRISE Academy. (Same-day Tape) ESPNU 2 p.m.: Grand Island at Vashon. (Same-day Tape)

6 p.m.: Womens College: NC State at Pittsburgh. (Live) ACC

FSPNU

7:30 p.m.: New York Knicks at Toronto Raptors. (Live), MSG 7:30 p.m.: Brooklyn Nets at Atlanta Hawks. (Live),

ESPN, YES 8 p.m.: DePaul at Louisville, (Live) ACC 10 p.m.: Boston Celtics at Phoenix Suns. (Live),

ESPN, NBCSB 2:30 a.m.: Brooklyn Nets at Atlanta Hawks. (Sameday Tape) ESPN2

FOOTBALL 7 p.m.: Montana at James Madison. (Live) ESPN2

GOLF 12 p.m.: QBE Shootout, First Round. (Live) GOLF

HOCKEY 7 p.m.: New York Rangers at Buffalo Sabres. (Live),

MSGPlus 7 p.m.: Pittsburgh Penguins at Washington

Capitals. (Live) SPRTNET **SOCCER** 2 p.m.: 2021 FIFA Arab Cup Quarterfinal - Qatar

vs United Arab Emirates. (Live) FS1 2:30 p.m.: Italian Serie B Soccer Ternana vs Benevento, (Live) FSP 6 p.m.: NCAA College Cup - Clemson vs Notre Dame. (Live) ESPNU

8:30 p.m.: NCAA College Cup - Georgetown vs Washington. (Live) **ESPNU**

TENNIS

6 a.m.: ATP Tennis Florianópolis-ATP Challenger, Maia-ATP Challenger, Quarterfinals & Doubles Semifinals. (Live) TENNIS 2:30 p.m.: ATP Tennis Florianópolis-ATP Challenger, Doubles Semifinal 2. (Live) **TENNIS**



The Red Sox's Hunter Renfroe reacts after he hit a double that scored Rafael Devers in the third inning against the Astros during Game 1 of the ALCS on Oct. 15 in Houston. ELSA/GETTY

Club has some options to replace Hunter Renfroe

By Jason Mastrodonato Boston Herald

BOSTON — When the Red Sox traded Hunter Renfroe as their final move before the MLB owners instituted a lockout last week, the Sox guaranteed two things.

One, they'd be without their best hitter vs. left-handed pitching in 2021, when Renfroe posted a team-high .885 OPS in more than 200 plate appearances against lefties.

And two, they'd also be without their best hitter vs. right-handed pitching in 2021, when Kyle Schwarber led the team with a 1.005 OPS against righties.

Renfroe is now on the Milwaukee Brewers and Schwarber is still an available free agent, but the Red Sox are in a pickle.

They need to essentially replace both sides of a platoon that contained their two most productive hitters. And given the way the roster is currently constructed, they're likely going to be doing that with just one player.

The obvious answer is to sign a lefthanded hitting first baseman like Schwarber, Anthony Rizzo or, cross your fingers, Freddie Freeman, and then add a right-handed hitting outfielder like Seiya Suzuki, Jorge Soler or Andrew McCutchen.

But are the Red Sox actually going to spend enough to fill both those holes adequately? All signs point to no, especially given the Sox have two internal options: Jarren Duran, the left-handed hitting outfielder, and Triston Casas, the left-handed hitting first baseman.

With the addition of Jackie Bradley Jr., that gives the Sox three additional lefthanded options while they've only lost one, Schwarber, who they could, and probably should, re-sign.

Before Schwarber made his Red Sox debut on Aug. 12, the Sox ranked sixth in MLB with a .762 OPS against right-handed pitching. After Aug. 12, when Schwarber returned and instantly changed the chemistry of the lineup, they catapulted up to an .849 OPS, good for first in MLB.

It's usually easier to place a platoon righthanded bat than a platoon left-handed bat consider the Sox paid just \$3 million to sign Renfroe last offseason — and the Sox will have some options to replace Renfroe, whose .882 OPS against lefties ranked 35th out of 123 players with at least 150 plate appear-

The point is, the Sox need another righthanded bat, and they probably need one who can play either second base or somewhere in the outfield.

As it stands, the alignment that makes the most sense is with Bradley in center field, Verdugo in right (where he was electric in 2020) and to-be-determined in left. That allows Kiké Hernandez to take over as the everyday second baseman, improving the Sox infield defense in a big way.

Where it gets tricky is if the Sox decide they want to use Bradley and Duran in the same lineup, which seems like a terrible idea.

They were two of the worst hitters in baseball at making contact last year, with Duran's 69% contact rate ranking 409th out of 463 players (min. 100 PAs) and Bradley's 68% contact rate ranking 422nd. Throw in Bobby Dalbec, whose 64% rate ranked 442nd, and the Sox have a serious problem if they plan to give these guys regular at-bats.

There were two areas they unquestionably needed to upgrade coming out of 2021: contact and defense.

They've upgraded their defense with the addition of Bradley, but damaged their contact rate while losing Renfroe and Schwarber.

GIANTS

Team optimistic Jones can return against Cowboys

By Tom Rock Newsday

TUCSON, Ariz. -Daniel Jones' job on Thursday was to throw interceptions.

While the rest of the quarterbacks, including Mike Glennon - who remains in the concussion protocol but is on track to be cleared and start on Sunday — as well as Jake Fromm who would serve as Glennon's backup, were working with the offense throwing passes to receivers and tight ends, Jones was at the other end of the field at the University of Arizona chucking deep passes. It was so the secondary could practice tracking — and theoretically picking off — the balls that Justin Herbert is certain to be lobbing their way on Sunday.

The Giants are convinced that soon enough they will be back to preventing Jones interceptions rather than choreographing them in their workouts. But while Jones shows no outward limitations from the neck injury that has sidelined him from contact since the end of the Eagles game almost two weeks ago, as evidenced by his long tosses, a medical stamp of approval is still forthcom-

"At this moment there is no information that would lead us in any way, shape or form to think there is a threat of long-term [damage]," Joe Judge said on Thursday regarding Jones' status. "We're still optimistic and preparing him to be back on the field this year. When the doctors say he is cleared for contact and he is ready to go, we'll have him ready

Judge added that thev are prepared to play Jones if he is somehow cleared to play on Sunday. That is unlikely. But the following week against the Cowboys is a more likely timeline for him to play.

"I know there are a lot of question marks around Daniel's status," Judge said. "There are a lot of question marks internally as well because a lot of this stuff is coming from doctors who are looking at pictures and making decisions on someone who is in this position because of the neck. We're going to be very deliberate and cautious with how we make this decision."

Judge said Jones has not lost any of his conditioning, mobility or arm strength to the injury.

"It wasn't a deal where he came out one day and couldn't throw or something of that nature," Judge said. "He went in the training room and reported something. Ronnie [Barnes, the senior vice president of medical services] and his staff did a great job in terms of making sure they did due diligence, got an image. They said something came up, we have to be careful with this. We waited on some second opinions and there were enough doctors who got together and said, 'Look, we have to do the right thing by this guy and this is something we have to make sure is clear before we put him out there."

Until that happens, Jones will be limited to throwing passes (and interceptions) in practices and not in games.

Patriots

from Page 1

post-retirement press conference when recalling the pain and grind of his final seasons in Foxborough. Gisele Bundchen famously said that Brady didn't feel "appreciated." When Danny Amendola left the Patriots in free agency, Gronk encouraged him on Instagram to "Be FREE, Be HAPPY."

In Tampa, Brady and Gronk finally can do things their own way and not work in such a demanding environment. Winning the Super Bowl in 2020 was proof enough that the Brady Way works.

Yet in 2021, the Patriots are having more fun than perhaps any other team in the league. Since when does Belichick call one of his players "my man"?

Consider this just an observation, not a criticism of Brady. But with the superstar quarterback gone, the pressure and drama have been relieved considerably. The days of Brady, Gronk, and Julian Edelman are in the past.

This year's team is led by a host of newer, lesser-known faces, like Mac Jones, Matthew Judon, Hunter Henry, and Bourne, who had nothing to do with the drama - both good and bad — of the past several years. We've got a lot of young

players - and new [players], I would say — that really have added some energy," offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels said. "They're fun to coach, they're fun to be around.

"I really like the vibe in our room. For coaches, it makes our days that are normally long, it makes them fly by, cause you're having a lot of fun."

With all the new faces, and all the winning, managing the egos also seems to have gotten easier for Belichick. After Monday's game, in which he didn't make a catch and played only 15 snaps, Bourne tweeted, "I care about WINS! not fantasy points!"

This team also has a rookie quarterback who just seems happy to have landed in the perfect situation.

When the Patriots beat the Bills by throwing three passes and calling 46 runs. Jones's reaction was, "I'm just trying to win. It was good that we scored more than the other team."

Jones took a good-natured ribbing from Judon, who praised "everybody besides Mac" on the Patriots offense.

"He really ain't do nothing besides hand the ball off," Judon quipped. Jones's teammates have

noticed how positive he has been and how he has accepted whatever his coaches and team have asked of him.

"That's the one position in this league where egos and things like that play a factor, and for him it hasn't," McCourty said recently on "The Rich Eisen Show."

McCourty added after Monday's win, "That's why I love playing here. This team isn't about one person, it isn't about egos. It's about winning."

Right-hander Manny Ramirez, another pitcher in minor league Rule 5 draft, added

By Kristie Ackert New York Daily News

YANKEES

NEW YORK - The Yankees picked up Manny Ramirez Wednesday.

No, things aren't that bad that they added the 49-yearold former Red Sox slugger. This Manny Ramirez is a right-handed pitcher from the Astros organization that the Yankees picked up in the minor league portion of the Rule 5 draft.

MLB announced Wednesday that they expect to hold the major league portion of the Rule 5 draft when the union and league agree on a collective bargaining agreement. Players selected in that

part of the Rule 5 draft immediately go on the 40-man roster and must be on the major league roster for the first full season. The minor league portion does not add to the 40-man roster and, like all minor league business, can continue during the lockout.

So Wednesday, the Yankees added two pitchers and lost one in the minor league Rule

Ramirez is a 22-year-old native of the Dominican Republic who had his 2020 season wiped out by the pandemic and did not pitch in 2021 because of an undisclosed injury.

The Yankees also picked

up right-hander Steven Jennings. The 22-year-old spent last season playing on the Pirates' A-ball and Double-A teams in Greensboro, Bradenton, and Altoona. A second-round pick out of high school in the 2017 draft, Jennings pitched to a 4.99 ERA and 1.392 WHIP in 74 combined innings out of the bullpen in 2021.

Meanwhile, the Red Sox claimed Brian Keller, a right-hander who pitched in Triple-A Scranton last season. from the Yankees. Picked in the 39th round of the 2016 draft, Keller pitched to a 2.77 ERA and a 1.608 WHIP in 26 games, including 11 starts (55.1 innings) last year.

SOCCER WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE Kerr flattens pitch invader

LONDON — Sam Kerr took matters into her own hands — or rather her left shoulder — when a man holding a cellphone entered the field and held up play during a big Women's Champions League match.

The Chelsea striker, who is Australia's captain and one of the world's best players, walked near to the man as he was finally being

ushered back off the field and then knocked him to the ground, to cheers from fans.

The incident happened during Chelsea's 0-0 draw with Juventus at Kingsmeadow and Kerr was given a yellow card for her actions. In footage that went viral, Juventus players seemed to try to stop the referee from booking Kerr. Associated Press

HARTFORD ATHLETIC

Leading scorer Obregón Jr. set to return for '22 season

Staff report

Hartford Athletic forward Juan Carlos Obregón Jr. will return for the 2022 season, according to a team release on Thursday.

"I am so happy to be back in Hartford for a second season," Obregón Jr. said, according to the release. "Last season was an incredible opportunity for me and I'm excited to come back to work with [Athletic] coach [Harry] Watling and the rest of the staff. To the fans,

I can't wait to get back out at Dillon Stadium and hear you cheer us on for 90 minutes."

Obregón Jr., who joined the Athletic in April, scored a team-leading 10 goals during the 2021 season. His 10 goals were the most in a single season in club history.

"Juan Carlos was magnificent for us all season and I am thrilled to have him back in 2022," said Watling. "He is exactly the type of player you want to build a squad around. Having him

at the center of our attack puts us in a great position to be successful, and I expect JC to beat his goal record from last season."

Obregón Jr. also became the first Athletic player to compete in the Olympics. Obregón Jr. played for Honduras in the Tokyo Games, scoring a crucial goal during the group stage in a 3-2 win over New Zealand.

According to the release, Obregón's deal is pending United Soccer League and federation approval.

SCOREBOARD

EASTERN C					
ATLANTIC Florida	GP W 25 17	4 4	38	96	71
Toronto Tampa Bay	27 18 25 16	5 4	38 36	85 84	66 67
Detroit Boston	26 13 22 12	10 3	29 26	73 62	83 58
Buffalo Ottawa	25 8 24 7	16 1	19 15	70 63	92
Montreal METRO.	27 6 GP W		15 PTS	61 GF	96 G /
Washington N.Y. Rangers	26 16 25 17	5 3	38 37	92 77	65
Carolina Pittsburgh	24 17 25 12		35 29	79 75	54 68
Columbus New Jersey	24 13 24 10	9 5	26 25	80 70	79
Philadelphia N.Y. Islanders			20 17	56 43	82 64
WESTERN (CENTRAL	CONFI GP W			GF	G/
Minnesota	25 18	6 1	37	96	72
Colorado St. Louis Nashville	23 14 25 13 25 14	8 4	30 30 29	99 84 73	79 73 70
Dallas Winnipeg	23 13 25 12	8 2	28 28	68 76	64
Chicago Arizona	25 9 25 5	14 2	20 12	56 44	81
PACIFIC Calgary	GP W	L OT		GF 84	G /
Caigary Anaheim Edmonton	26 15 27 14 24 16	8 5	33 32	89 87	78
Vegas San Jose	25 15 26 14	10 0	30 29	86 71	77
Los Angeles Vancouver	24 10 27 10	10 4	24 22	64 66	67
Seattle NOT E: Two po	25 9	14 2	20	73 poin	90 t
for overtime each division					
conference a			yoffs.	•	
THURSDAY'S Anaheim at C	Columb	us, late	9		
Chicago at M Tampa Bay a Nashvilla at N	t Toron	ito, late			
Nashville at I Detroit at St. Boston at Edi	Louis,	late	ıate		
Boston at Ed Carolina at C Winnipeg at:	algary	, late			
Dallas at Los Minnesota at	Angel	es, late	2		
FRIDAY'S GAI		_, iat			
N.Y. Rangers Pittsburgh at	at Buff Wash	ington,	7p.m		
Nashville at I Detroit at Co	New Je Iorado	rsey, 7: , 9p.m.			
Florida at Ari Philadelphia	zona, 9 at Veg	p.m. as, 10p			
Winnipeg at			p.m.		
WEDNESDAY Colorado 7, N New Jersey 3	I.Y. Rar	igers 3	n		
New Jersey 3 Vancouver 2, Vegas 5, Dall	Bosto				
ODDS	AV 4				
COLLEGE B	ASKF	ТВАІІ		RID	Δ٨
FAVORITE at Furman	LI	NE		ERD	00
at Tennessee at UMKC	St. 8	1½ Ap 1½ 1½			PU
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at Memphis at Louisville		9	Murra	DeP	au
at Colorado	1	13		waul	
NBA FAVORITE at Indiana	LINE off	O/U (off)	_	RID DERD Da	00
Sacramento at Atlanta	1½ 1	(off) (227½) (off)	В	harlo rook	tte dyr
at New Orlea	off ins 6	(off) (212½	N()	ew Y Det	orl roi
Milwaukee at Minnesota at Okla. City	7½ off off	(off) (off) (off)	CI	Hous evela Lak	anc
at Phoenix	off	(off)	L	Bos	
NHL FAVORITE	LINE	UNDE		RID	AY .ine
at Washingto New York		Pittsb	urgh	+	118 150
Nashville at Colorado		at Nev	v Jers		112 265
Florida at Vegas	-260 -210	at Ariz Philad	zona Ielphi	a +	210 172
at Vancouver		Winni	peg SAT		102 AV
FAVORITE Army	SP 7½	O/U (34)	UND	DERD at N	00
Bahamas Bo Toledo			riday,		. 17
Cure Bowl Coastal Carol		(63)		. Illin	
Boca Raton E Appalachian	St. 3	Satu (67½)	rday, W. Ke		
New Mexico Fresno State	11	(50)		U	ΓEF
Independend BYU LendingTree	7	(54½)		ι	JAE
Liberty LA Bowl	9	(581/2)	E. M	lichg	iar
Oregon State New Orleans		(66)	Uta	ah St	ate
La-Lafayette Myrtle Beac l	ı Bowl		nday,		. 20
Tulsa Famous Idah			Tue,	Dec.	. 21
Wyoming Frisco Bowl UTSA	3	(58½)		nt St	
Armed Force	2½ s Bowl 3½	(50) Wedne (59½)	sday,		. 22
Army Frisco Footb a Miami (Ohio)	all Clas		Γhur.,		. 23
Gasparilla Bo Florida		(57)		ι	JCF
Hawaii Bowl Memphis	61/2		riday,		. 24
Camellia Bov Georgia State	vI e 4½	Satu (50)		Dec. all St	25 ate
Quick Lane B Nevada	3	Mo (60½)	nday, W. M		
Military Bow Boston Colle Birmingham	ge 31/2	(51) Tue	East (Carol	ina
Auburn SERVPRO Fi r	3 st Res p	onder			
Louisville Libertv Bowl	11/2	(55½)	Α	ir Fo	
Mississippi S Holiday Bow l NC State	1	(60) (60)	ıex	as To UC	ech CLA
Guaranteed I Minnesota	Rate Bo	owl (45) '	West	Virgi	inia
Fenway Bowl Virginia Pinstripe Bov	11/2	(72½)	suay,	S S	. 2 9
Virginia Tech Cheez-It Bow	1 /I	(54½)		aryla	
Clemson Alamo Bowl Oklahoma	1 4½	(45½) (61½)	lov	va St Oreg	
Duke's Mayo North Carolir	Bowl na 7		sday, South	Dec	. 30
Music City Bo Tennessee	owl 4	(63)		Puro	
Peach Bowl Pittsburgh Las Vegas Bo	wl 1	(63½)	Mich	igan	St
Wisconsin Gator Bowl	7	(42½) F	riday,	Dec	. 31
Texas A&M Sun Bowl Miami	7 2½	(59½) (60)	Wak	e For /ash.	es
Arizona Bow l Boise State	1 7½	(55)	C. M	lichio	
CFP Semifina Alabama	al Cotto 13½	on Bowl (58)	Class Cir	sic ncinr	
CFP Semifina Georgia Outback Bow	71/2	(44) Sa	M turda	lichig y, Ja i	n. 1
Penn State Fiesta Bowl	2	(461/2)	A	rkan	sas
Notre Dame Citrus Bowl Kentucky	21/2	(45½)((44)	υκlah		St
Rose Bowl Ohio State	61/2				tal
Sugar Bowl Baylor	11/2	(54)		sissi	рр
Texas Bowl Kansas State	1	Tu (48)	esday		1. 4 _Sl
NFL WEEK	14 SP	O/U		UND DERD	
New Orleans at Cleveland	51/2		at	NY J altim	ets
at Kansas Cit	y 9½ 8½	(47½) (4½)	La at F	s Ve	gas tor
at Kansas Cit Seattle	4 2½	(48) a (42½)			tor
			Jack	sonv	ille
Seattle Dallas at Carolina at Tennessee at LA Charge	8½ rs 9½	(43)	N۱	/ Gia	
Seattle Dallas at Carolina at Tennessee at LA Charge at Denver San Francisc	8½ rs 9½ 10 0 1½	(43) (42½) (48½)		Det ncinr	roi 1at
Seattle Dallas	e 8½ rs 9½ 10 0 ½ y 3	(43) (42½) (48½) (53½)	at Cir	Deta ncinr Buff Chica	roi nat falc ago
Seattle Dallas at Carolina at Tennessee at LA Charge at Denver San Francisco at Tampa Bay	e 8½ rs 9½ 10 0 1½ y 3 11½	(43) (42½) (48½) (53½) (43) (51½)	at Cir (Det ncinr Buff	roi nat falc ago DAY

NBA					COLLEGE FOOTBALL
EASTERN CONI	FFRFI	NCF			AP PLAYER OF THE YEAR
ATLANTIC	w	L	PCT	GB	Voting for 2021 AP Player of the year,
Brooklyn	17	8	.680	_	with 1st-, 2nd- and 3rd-place votes an
Philadelphia	14	11	.560	3	total points (voting on 3-2-1 basis): PLAYER 1 2 3 P
Boston	13	13	.500	$4\frac{1}{2}$	1
New York	12	13	.480	5	Bryce Young, QB, Ala. 42 5 1 1
Toronto	11	14	.440	6	Aidan, DE, Michigan 4 23 9
OUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB	Hutchinson
Miami	15	11	.577	_	Kenny Pickett, QB, Pitt 2 9 17 Will, LB, Alabama 4 6 8
Washington	15	11	.577	_	Anderson Jr
Atlanta	13	12	.520	$1\frac{1}{2}$	C.J. Stroud, QB, Ohio State 1 3 8
Charlotte	14	13	.519	$1\frac{1}{2}$	Kenneth, RB, Michigan St 0 4 5
Orlando	5	21	.192	10	Walker III
CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	Jordan Davis, DT, Georgia 0 3 2
Chicago	17	9	.654		Matt Corral, QB, Ole Miss 0 0 2
Milwaukee	16	10	.615	1	Jerome Ford, RB, Cincinnati 0 0 1
Cleveland	14	12	.538	3	
ndiana	11	16	.407	$6\frac{1}{2}$	RECENT AP PLAYERS OF THE YEAR
Detroit	4	20	.167	12	2021 Bryce Young QB Alabama
WESTERN OON	FEDE				2020 DeVonta Smith WR Alabama
WESTERN CON					2019 Joe Burrow QB LSU
OUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB	2018 Kyler Murray QB Oklahoma
Memphis	14	11	.560	_	2017 Baker Mayfield QB Oklahoma
Dallas	12	12	.500	$1\frac{1}{2}$	2016 Lamar Jackson QB Louisville
San Antonio	8	15	.348	.5	2015 Christian McCaffrey RBStanford
louston	8	16	.333	$5\frac{1}{2}$	SATURDAY'S GAME. E. Rutherford. N.J
New Orleans	7	20	.259	8	Army (8-3) vs. Navy (3-8), 3p.m.
ORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB	
Jtah	17	7	.708	_	NCAA FCS PLAYOFFS
Denver	12	12	.500	5	FRIDAY'S QUARTERFINALS
Minnesota	11	14	.440	$6\frac{1}{2}$	Montana at James Madison, 7p.m.
Portland	11	15	.423	7	SATURDAY'S QUARTERFINALS
Oklahoma City	8	16	.333	9	ETSU at North Dakota St., noon
PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB	South Dakota St at Villanova, 2p.m.
Golden State	21	4	.840		Montana St. at Sam Houston, 8:30p.m
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1/2	NCAA DIVISION II PLAYOFFS
.A. Clippers	14	12	.538	$7\frac{1}{2}$	SATURDAY'S SEMIFINALS
A. Lakers	13	12	.520	8	Shepherd vs. Valdosta St., 3:30p.m.
Sacramento	11	14	.440	10	Ferris St. vs. Colorado Mines, noon.
FILLIDED AVIC D	ECII:				
THURSDAY'S R Itah at Philadelp					NCAA DIVISION III PLAYOFFS
					CATURDANCE CELUEINIAL C

Utah at Philadelphia, late L.A. Lakers at Memphis, late Denver at San Antonio, late

Dallas at Indiana, 7n.m. Sacramento at Charlotte, 7p.m. Brooklyn at Atlanta, 7:30p.m. New York at Toronto, 7:30n.m. Cleveland at Minnesota, 8p.m. Detroit at New Orleans, 8p.m. I.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City, 8p.m. Milwaukee at Houston, 8p.m. Boston at Phoenix, 10p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS Indiana 122, New York 102 Cleveland 115, Chicago 92 Philadelphia 110, Charlotte 106 Oklahoma City 110, Toronto 109 Washington 119, Detroit 116, OT Miami 113, Milwaukee 104 Utah 136, Minnesota 104 Dallas 104, Memphis 96 Houston 114, Brooklyn 104 Denver 120, New Orleans 114, OT Sacramento 142, Orlando 130 Golden State 104, Portland 94 L.A. Clippers 114, Boston 111

CAREER 3-POINTS FIELD GOALS

2973	1300	7429	.400
2964	786	6860	.432
2560	1389	6486	.395
2509	902	6913	.363
2450	1232	5715	.429
2290	1541	6168	.371
2282	1410	6010	.380
2221	1327	6379	.348
2143	1343	5816	.368
2106	702	5650	.373
lay			
	2964 2560 2509 2450 2290 2282 2221 2143 2106	2964 786 2560 1389 2509 902 2450 1232 2290 1541 2282 1410 2221 1327 2143 1343 2106 702	2973 1300 7429 2964 786 6860 2560 1389 6485 2509 902 6913 2450 1232 5715 2290 1541 6168 2282 1410 6010 2221 1327 6379 2143 1343 5816 2106 702 5650

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED 1. Purdue (8-0) at Rutgers. Next: vs N.C. 2. Baylor (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. #6 Villanova, Sunday.

3. Duke (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. South Carolina State, Tuesday. 4. UCLA (8-1) did not play. Next:at: 5. Gonzaga (7-2) vs. Merrimack. Next: 6. Villanova (7-2) did not play. Next: at #2 Baylor, Sunday. 7. Texas (6-2) lost to #23 Seton Hall 64-60. Next: vs. Ark-Pine Bluff, Tuesday.

8. Kansas (7n-1) did not play. Next: vs. 9. Alabama (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. #14 Houston, Saturday.

10. Kentucky (7-1) did not play. Next: at Notre Dame, Saturday.

11. Arizona (8-0) did not play. Next: at 12. Arkansas (9-0) did not play. Next: at Oklahoma, Saturday. 13. Tennessee (6-1) did not play. Next: vs. UNC-Greensboro, Saturday.

14. Houston (8-1) vs. did not play. Next: at #9 Alabama, Saturday, 15. UConn (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. St. Bonaventure, Saturday.
16. Southern Cal (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Long Beach St., Sunday.

17. Iowa State (8-0) vs. Iowa. Next: vs.

18. Auburn 419 (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. Nebraska, Saturday.

19. Michigan State (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. Penn State, Saturday. 20. Florida (7-2) did not play. Next: at vs. #22 Wisconsin, Saturday.

22. Wisconsin (8-1) did not play. Next:

Vs. #22 Wisconsin (8-1) did not play. Next: at #21 Ohio State, Saturday.

23. Seton Hall (8-1) beat #7 Texas 64-60. Next: vs. Rutgers, Sunday 24. BYU (8-1) did not play. Next: at Creighton, Saturday.
25. LSU (8-0) did not play. Next: at Georgia Tech, Saturday

THURSDAY'S SCORES Curry 89, Lesley 67 Mercyhurst 74, Le Moyne 62 Seton Hall 64, Texas 60 SOUTH Greensboro 72, Regent 53 NC Central 102, Carver 50

NC State 65, Bethune-Cookman 48 Kent St. 69, Detroit 52

WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED 1. South Carolina (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. #8 Maryland, Sunday.

2. North Carolina State (8-1) did not play. Next: at Pittsburgh, Friday. 3. UConn (5-2) lost to Georgia Tech 57-44. Next: vs. UCLA, Saturday. 4. Stanford (5-2) did not play. Next: vs. **5. Baylor (9-1) did not play. Next:** at #13 Michigan, Sunday, Dec. 19. 6. Arizona (7-0) vs. N. Dakota State. Next: vs. New Mexico, Sunday.
7. Louisville (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. 8. Maryland (9-2) did not play. Next: at #1 South Carolina, Sunday.
9. Indiana (7-2) beat Fairfield 91-58. 10. Tennessee (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia State, Sunday 11.Texas (6-1) did not play. Next: vs. Idaho, Saturday. 12. Iowa (5-2) did not play. Next: vs. UCF, Saturday, Dec. 18. 13. Michigan (8-1) at Wisconsin. Next:

14. Kentucky (6-2) lost to DePaul 94-85. Next: at #7 Louisville, Sunday. 15. Iowa State (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Northern Iowa, Sunday.

16. BYU (8-0) did not play. Next: at 17. South Florida (5-3) did not play. Next: at VCU, Sunday 18. Texas A&M (8-1) vs. Texas Southern. Next: at TCU, Sunday

19. Duke (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. #1

20. Ohio State (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. #9 Indiana, Sunday. 21. Georgia (8-1) did not play. Next: at #2 NC State, Thursday.

22. Notre Dame (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. Fort Wayne, Sunday.

23. Oregon State (4-2) did not play. Next: at Monmouth, Saturday 24. LSU (6-1) did not play. Next: vs. Texas Southern, Sunday. 25. Colorado (9-0) did not play. Next:

EAST	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	P
New England	9		0	.692	350	20
Buffalo	7	5	0	.583	336	19
Miami	6	7	0	.462	254	28
N.Y. Jets	3	9	0	.250	217	36
SOUTH	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	P
Tennessee	8	4	0	.667	304	29
Indianapolis	7	6	0	.538	371	28
Houston	2	10	0	.167	164	32
Jacksonville	2	10	0	.167	180	32
NORTH	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	P
Baltimore	8	4	0	.667	282	26
Cincinnati	7	5	0	.583	331	26
Pittsburgh	6	5	1	.542	244	28
Cleveland	6	6	0	.500	254	26
WEST	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	P
Kansas City	8	4	0	.667	303	25
L.A. Chargers	7	5	0	.583	314	31
Denver	6	6	0	.500	237	21
Las Vegas	6	6	0	500	274	31

SATURDAY'S SEMIFINALS Mary Hardin-Baylor vs

Wis.-Whitewater, 3p.m.

UPCOMING BOWL GAMES

North Central vs. Mount Union, noon.

Bahamas BowlNassau, Bahamas Toledo (7-5) vs. Mid. Tenn. (6-6), noon

Cure Bowl, Orlando, Fla. N. Illinois (9-4) vs. C. Carolina (10-2), 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 18 Boca Raton Bowl, Boca Raton, Fla. W. Ky (8-5) vs. Appal. St. (10-3), 11a.m. Celebration Bowl, Atlanta SC St. (6-5) vs. Jackson St. (11-1), noon

New Mexico Bowl, Albuquerque Fresno St. (9-3) vs. UTEP (7-5), 2:15p.m. Independence Bowl, Shreveport, La. #12BVU (10-2) vs. UAB (8-4), 3:30p.m.

E. Michigan (7-5) vs. Liberty (7-5), 5:45 p.m. LA Bowl, Inglewood, Calif.

Oregon St. (7-5) vs. Utah St. (10-3), 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Bowl, New Orleans

#16 La-Laf. (12-2) vs. Marshall (7-5), 9:15 p.m.

Old Dominion (6-6) vs. Tulsa (6-6), 2:30 p.m.

Famous Idaho Potato, Boise, Idaho Kent St (7-6) vs. Wyoming (6-6), 3:30 p.m.

Frisco Bowl, Frisco, Texas #24 UTSA (12-1) vs. S. Diego St. (11-2), 7p.m.

Armed Forces Bowl, Fort Worth, Texas Missouri (6-6) vs. Army (8-3), 8p.m.

Frisco Football Classic, Frisco, Texas

Gasparilla Bowl, Tampa, Fla.

UCF (8-4) vs. Florida (6-6), 7p.m.

Miami (7-5) vs. N. Texas (6-6), 3:30p.m.

Memphis (6-6) vs. Hawaii (6-7), 8p.m.

Camellia Bowl, Montgomery, Ala. Ball State (6-6) vs. Ga. St. (7-5), 2:30 p.m.

Quick Lane Bowl Nevada (8-4) vs. W. Mich. (7-5), 11a.m.

Bos Coll. (6-6) vs. E. Carolina (7-5), 2:30 p.m.

Birmingham Bowl, Birmingham, Ala. #21 Houston (11-2) vs. Auburn (6-6), noon

SERVPRO First Responder Bowl. Dallas

Air Force (9-3) vs. Louisville (6-6), 3:15 p.m.

Miss St. (7-5) vs. TX Tech (6-6), 6:45p.m.

Holiday Bowl, San Diego UCLA (8-4) vs. NC State (9-3), 8p.m.

Minnesota (8-4) vs. W. Va (6-6), 10:15 p.m.

Femway Bowl, Boston
Virginia (6-6) vs. SMU (8-4), 11a.m.
Pinstripe Bowl, New York City
Va. Tech (6-6) vs. Maryland (6-6), 2:15 p.m.
Cheez-It Bowl, Orlando, Fla.

#19 Clemson (9-3) vs. Iowa St. (7-5), 5:45 p.m.

#14 Okla. (10-2) vs. #15 Oregon (10-3), 9:15 a.m.

Duke's Mayo Bowl, Charlotte, N.C. S. Carolina (6-6) vs. N. Carolina (6-6), 11:30 a.m.

Music City Bowl, Nashville Purdue (8-4) vs. Tennessee (7-5), 3p.m.

#11 Mich St. (10-2) vs. #13 Pitt (11-2),7 p.m. **Las Vegas Bowl, Las Vegas** Wisconsin (8-4) vs. Arizona St. (8-4), 10:30 p.m.

College Football Playoff Semifinal (Orange Bowl), Miami Gardens, Fla. #2 Michigan (12-1) vs.

#3 Georgia (12-1), 7:30 p.m. College Football Playoff Semifinal (Cotton Bowl Classic), Arlington, Texas

#4Cincinnati (13-0), 7:30p.m. Gator Bowl, Jacksonville, Fla.

#20Wake Forest (10-3) vs. #23Texas

Wash. St. (7-5) vs. Miami (7-5), noon **Arizona Bowl, Tucson, Ariz.** C. Mich. (8-4) vs. Boise St. (7-5), 4:30 p.m.

#22 Arkansas (8-4) vs. Penn St. (7-5), noon

Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla. #17 lowa (10-3) vs. #25 Kentucky (9-3), 1 p.m.

#7 Ohio St. (10-2) vs. #10 Utah (10-3), 5 p.m. **Sugar Bowl, New Orleans** #6 Baylor (11-2) vs. #8 Miss. (10-2), 8:30 p.m.

LSU (6-6) vs. Kansas St. (7-5), 9p.m.

MLS CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Brentford vs. Watford, 3p.m.

SATURDAY'S MATCHES

CFP Championship Game, Indianapolis Semifinal winners, 8p.m.

SATURDAY'S FINAL, Providence Park #4 New York City FC at #4 Portland, 3 p.m.

Man City vs. Wolverhampton, 7:30a.m. Arsenal vs. Southampton, 10a.m. Chelsea vs. Leeds, 10a.m.

WTA OPEN ANGERS ARENA LOIRE

Arena LoireAngers, France, out-hard WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16

#4 Clara Burel d. Isabella Shinikova.

6-4, 2-6, 6-3. Natalia Vikhlyantseva d. #6 Vera

Mallaurie Noel vs. Polona Hercog.

7-6(9), 7-6(4).

Yue Yuan d. #3 Greet Minnen, 6-3, 6-3.

Zvonareva, 6-3, 6-4. Vitalia Diatchenko d. Daniela Vismane, 2-6, 7-6(6), 7-6(0).

Liverpool vs. Aston Villa, 10a.m. Norwich vs. Man United, 12:30p.m.

#1Alabama (12-1) vs.

A&M (8-4), 10a.m.
Sun Bowl, El Paso, Texas

SATURDAY, JAN. 1 Outback Bowl, Tampa, Fla.

Fiesta Bowl. Glendale. Ariz.

Rose Bowl. Pasadena. Calif.

TUESDAY, JAN. 4 Texas Bowl, Houston

MONDAY, JAN. 8

FRIDAY'S MATCH

#5Notre Dame (11-1) vs. #9Oklahoma St. (11-2), 1p.m.

Guaranteed Rate Bowl, Phoenix

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29

Alamo Bowl, San Antonio

THURSDAY, DEC. 30

Peach Bowl, Atlanta

Military Bowl, Annapolis, Md.

iberty Bowl, emphis, Tenn.

Myrtle Beach Bowl, Conway, S.C.

MONDAY, DEC. 20

TUESDAY, DEC. 21

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22

THURSDAY, DEC. 23

FRIDAY, DEC. 24

Hawaii Bowl, Honolulu

SATURDAY, DEC. 25

MONDAY, DEC. 27

TUESDAY, DEC. 28

Kansas City	8	4	0	.667	303	259
L.A. Chargers	7	5	0	.583	314	315
Denver	6	6	0	.500	237	218
Las Vegas	6	6	0	.500	274	312
NATIONAL C	10:	IFE	REN	CE		
EAST	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	PA
Dallas	8	4	0	.667		
Washington	6	6	0	.500	246	297
Philadelphia	6	7	0	.462	337	291
N.Y. Giants	4	8	0	.333	211	273
SOUTH	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	PA
Tampa Bay	9	3	0	.750	377	270
Atlanta	5	7	0	.417	216	332
Carolina	5	7	0	.417	236	253
New Orleans	5	7	0	.417	274	276
NORTH	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	PA
Green Bay	9	3	0	.750		
Minnesota	5	7	0	.417	308	305
Chicago	4	8	0	.333	201	287
Detroit	1	10	1	.125		316
WEST	W	L	Т	PCT	PF	PA
Arizona	10	2	0	.833		
L.A. Rams	8	4	0	.667		
San Francisco	6	6	0	.500	303	278
Seattle	4	8	0	.333	239	249

WEEK 14 THURSDAY'S RESULT Pittsburgh at Minnesota, late

SUNDAY'S GAMES Atlanta at Carolina, 1p.m. Baltimore at Cleveland, 1p.m. Dallas at Washington, 1p.m. Jacksonville at Tennessee, 1p.m. Las Vegas at Kansas City, 1p.m. New Orleans at N.Y. Jets, 1p.m. Seattle at Houston, 1n.m. Detroit at Denver, 4:05p.m. N.Y. Giants at L.A. Chargers, 4:05p.m. Buffalo at Tampa Bay, 4:25p.m. San Francisco at Cincinnati, 4:25p.m. Chicago at Green Bay, 8:20p.m.

MONDAY'S GAME L.A. Rams at Arizona, 8:15p.m. Off: Indianapolis, Miami, New England, Philadelphia

TEAM GAME HIGHS, LOWS

MOST POINTS 54, New England vs. New York 10/24 48, Tampa Bay vs. Atlanta 9/19 47, L.A. Chargers vs. Cleveland 10/10 45, Tampa Bay vs. Miami 10/10 45, Indianapolis vs. New York 11/5 45. New England vs. Cleveland 11/14 45, Buffalo at New York 11/14

FEWEST POINTS

0, Houston vs. Indianapolis 12/5 0, Atlanta vs. New England 11/19 0, Seattle at Green Bay 11/14 0. Houston at Buffalo 10/3 0, N.Y. Jets at Denver 9/26 0, Miami vs. Buffalo 9/19 MOST TOTAL YARDS 571, Minnesota at Carolina 10/17 567, Dallas at New England 10/17 558, Tampa Bay vs. Miami 10/10 551, New England vs. New York 10/24 533, L.A. Chargers vs. Pittsburgh 11/22 MOST RUSHING YARDS

270, Tennessee at New England 11/28 264, Indianapolis at Buffalo 11/21 260. Indianapolis vs. New York 11/5 MOST NET PASSING YARDS 452, Tampa Bay vs. Miami 10/10 445, Dallas at New England 10/17 442, Baltimore vs. Indianapolis 10/12
TIMES SACKED BY OPPONENT PASSES HAD INTERCEPTED
4, N.Y. Jets vs. New England 9/19 4. Houston at Buffalo 10/3 4, N.Y. Jets vs. Buffalo 11/14 4, Atlanta vs. New England 11/19 4. Tennessee vs. Houston 11/21 4, Baltimore vs. Cleveland 11/29 4, New Orleans vs. Dallas 12/3 Chicago vs. Arizona 12/5

MOST FUMBLES LOST
3, Miami vs. Houston 11/7 3. Tennessee at New England 11/28 3, Indianapolis vs. Tampa Bay 11/28 FIRST DOWNS
36, Baltimore vs. Minnesota 11/7 TIME OF POSSESSION

18:25, Houston vs. Indianapolis 12/5 PRO BOWL VOTE LEADERS **Event:** Feb. 6 at Allegiant Stadium, Las Vegas. Voting ends Dec. 16 with rosters

to be announced Dec. 20. TOP OVERALL VOTE-GETTERS Jonathan Taylor, RB, Indpls Travis Kelce, TE, Kanssa City 168,222 158,633 Cooper Kupp, WR, LA Rams Tom Brady, QB, Tampa Bay Myles Garrett, DE, Cleveland 156,176

	VOTING LEADERS BY POSITION					
POS	CON	OFFENSE	VOTES			
QB	AFC	Josh Allen, Buf	110,498			
QB	NFC	Tom Brady, TB	151,305			
RB	AFC	Jonathan Taylor, Ind	168,222			
RB	NFC	Ezekel Elliott, Dal	87,717			
FB		Patrick Ricard, Bal	90,800			
FB		Kyle Juszczyk, SF	135,670			
WR		Ja'Marr Chase, Cin	125,516			
WR	NFC	Cooper Kupp, LAR	156,176			
TE		Travis Kelce, KC	158,633			
TE		Kyle Pitts, Atl	118,118			
OT		Orlando Brown, KC	54,126			
OT		Terron Armstead, NO	82,555			
OG		Joel Bitonio, Cle	78,509			
OG	NFC	Zack Martin, Dal	55,929			
С		David Andrews, NE	77,148			
С		Tyler Biadasz, Dal	55,324			
PK		Justin Tucker, Bal	109,318			
PK	NFC	Graham Gano, NYG	51,490			
RS	AFC		51,904			
RS	NFC	DeAndre Carter, Was	69,297			
POS	CON	DEFENSE	VOTES			

PK	NEC	Graham Gano, NYG	51,490
RS	AFC	Ray-Ray McCloud, Pit	51,904
RS	NFC	DeAndre Carter, Was	69,297
POS	CON	DEFENSE	VOTES
DE	AFC	Myles Garrett, Cle	150,268
DE	NFC	Nick Bosa, SF	136,682
DT	AFC	Jeffery Simmons, Ten	110,850
DT	NFC	Aaron Donald, LAR	130,991
OLB	AFC	T.J. Watt, Pit	144,693
OLB	NFC	Haason Redick, Car	79,820
ILB	AFC	Denzel Perryman, LV	73,553
ILB	NFC	Devin White, TB	99,629
CB	AFC	J.C. Jackson, NE	116,640
CB	NFC	Trevon Diggs, Dal	144,228
SS	AFC	Tyrann Mathieu, KC	73,982
SS	NFC		80,934
FS		Micah Hyde, Buf	115,751
FS	NFC	Quandre Diggs, Sea	72,279
Р	AFC	Cam Johnston, Hou	58,329
Р	NFC	Michael Dickson, Sea	88557
ST	AFC	Ola Adeniyi, Ten	59,017
ST	NFC	Nick Bellore, Sea	59,987
LS		Joe Cardona, NE	66,174
LS	NFC	Cam Cheeseman, Was	55,408

PGA CHAMPIONS OUALIFYING 3rd round, TPC Tampa Bay, Lutz, Fla., 6,898 yards; Par: 71

David Branshaw	67-67-68-202	-11
Thongchai Jaidee	68-72-63-203	-10
Rob Labritz	65-71-67-203	-10
Tom Gillis	65-69-70-204	-9
Alan Morin	70-66-69-205	-8
Skip Kendall	70-68-68-206	-7
Mark Mielke	70-69-68-207	-6
Michael Muehr	70-69-69-208	-5
Mark Brown	70-67-71-208	-5
Charlie Wi	70-73-66-209	-4
Paul Stankowski	68-72-69-209	-4
Mario Tiziani	66-72-71-209	-4
Esteban Toledo	66-71-72-209	-4
Ricardo Gonzalez	67-69-73-209	-4
Roger Rowland	72-70-68-210	-3
Jarmo Sandelin	71-69-70-210	-3
Guy Boros	66-73-71-210	-3
Matt Gogel	76-68-67-211	-2
Bob Sowards	73-70-68-211	-2
Ken Tanigawa	72-68-71-211	-2
- rion raingarra		-



Lewis Hamilton, left, and Max Verstappen will battle it out for the Formula One title Sunday. ANTONIN VINCENT/AP

AUTO RACING

F1 rivals eager to hit the gas

By Jenna Fryer Associated Press

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates — Lewis Hamilton entered Yas Marina Circuit chasing history Thursday dressed head-to-toe in purple with a graffiti-styled expletive scrawled across the back of his sweater.

Asked if he was sending a message, the seven-time champion claimed he was unaware what it said until he was getting dressed. Pure coincidence, Hamilton said, but it sure looked as if he was ready for the finale of his title fight with Max Verstappen.

Both drivers had spent the last three days relaxing in Dubai before making their way 75 minutes south for the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, where the championship will be settled Sunday. They're tied in the standings — the first time since 1974 the title contenders entered the deciding race equal in points — and the championship battle this season has been the most dramatic in at least a decade.

As Hamilton and Verstappen sat next to each other for their joint news conference, the F1 championship trophy strategically placed between them, the race was already on. No, not for the F1 title, but rather which driver could more convincingly appear as if they didn't have a care in the world headed into the climactic conclusion.

"I stayed over in Dubai, ate nice meals with friends and family, celebrated the birthday of my girlfriend, as well," Verstappen said. "These things also need to happen because, I mean, Formula One is of course one thing, but it's also important to not forget what very important things are and it's been nice weather and doesn't remind me too much of winter back in Europe."

Verstappen, just 24 years old, is trying to become the first Dutch world champion. He had a pretty decent hold on this title race until last month. Hamilton reeled off three straight victories to cut all 19 points off Verstappen's lead in three action-packed races against his new rival.

Hamilton now has a record eighth F1 title in reach. The only Black driver in the global series can break his tie with Michael Schumacher by finishing ahead of Verstappen on the 16-turn, 3.28mile track.

"With the year that we've had, I'm sure some would've ruled us out being this close at the end," Hamilton said. "And no one's ever done eight."

But what about the drama and tension of this better-than-TV title fight? Will they wreck each other Sunday as has happened twice already this season? Do they need to have a private chat to discuss Verstappen's increasingly aggressive driving?

Neither fueled the flames on the opening day of the most important weekend of the season.

"I think as a driver you don't think about these things. You just want to go to a weekend where you just want to do the best you can as a team and of course you try to win the race," Verstappen said. "Naturally the media starts to say these things. I arrived here just trying to do the best I can and trying to be the best prepared."

Added Hamilton: "I just don't give it any energy. I'm here to do the best job I can with this incredible team."

IN BRIEF

Rutherford takes over as Canucks president

News services

The Canucks hired veteran NHL executive Jim Rutherford as team president on Thursday.

Rutherford will also serve as interim GM and lead the search for a GM.

The Canucks cleaned house Sunday, firing GM Jim Benning, coach Travis Green and other front-office staff. The team hired Bruce Boudreau as coach on a two-vear deal. The 72-year-old Ruth-

erford, a member of the Hockey Hall of Fame in the builders' category, was GM of the Penguins from 2014-21. The team won Stanley Cups in 2016 and '17. He also served as

the Hurricanes GM for 20 years and saw the team win the Cup in 2006.

College football: Alabama starting CB Josh Jobe will miss the College Football Playoff after undergoing foot surgery this week.

NBA: The Pacers and Raptors canceled their practices in precautionary moves, citing the league's COVID-19 health and safety protocols. Pacers coach Rick Carlisle, 63, was placed in the protocols after testing positive for the virus, ESPN reported. He's fully vaccinated, including a booster shot, and reportedly has mild symptoms. Later, the Raptors announced that team president Masai Ujiri had tested positive for COVID-19 and was isolating at home. Ujiri also is fully vaccinated and has received a booster. Ujiri said he attended an event Sunday for his nonprofit Giants of Africa at which everyone was required to be vaccinated. After the gala, he learned that some guests had tested positive.

NFL: Packers WR Randall Cobb underwent surgery last week for a core muscle injury and will miss several games and maybe the rest of the regular season.

Soccer: Villarreal clinched the final place in the last 16 of the Champions League with a 3-2 win over host Atalanta in a match postponed from Wednesday because of heavy snow. Villarreal only needed a draw to advance as runner-up from Group F.



Georgia Tech forward Digna Strautmane (45) and UConn guard Caroline Ducharme vie for a loose ball during the first half Thursday in Atlanta. JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

UConn

from Page 1

three in the fourth in their loss to South Carolina).

"That fourth quarter, we didn't respond, which has happened before with this team," Auriemma said. "So you can blame Paige not being here. Yeah, that's part of it. But that's not the real story."

What was more stunning than the game itself was Auriemma's admission of defeat afterward.

"I don't think it's gonna get fixed. I really don't," he said. "I've been doing this a long, long time. Coaches are supposed to be optimistic. I'm too old to be an optimist. I'm a realist. I truly believe what I see. I don't try to make up what I'm seeing and pretend it's something else. I know what I see.

"And what I see is a team that's somewhat disheveled. And that's all me. Somehow, someway, I do not have the ability at this point in time to affect my players to make sure that we're in a better place mentally and physically and play the kind of basketball we need to play."

Senior Christyn Williams led UConn with 13 points, Nelson-Ododa followed with 12. UConn did not make players available for postgame media.

Junior Aubrey Griffin (back/leg/ ankle) dressed and was a game-time decision for the first time this season. while sophomore Piath Gabriel did not make the trip due to a "mandatory academic obligation in Storrs," according to the school. With Bueckers, Griffin, Azzi Fudd (foot) and Nika Mühl (foot) sidelined with injuries, the Huskies were severely shorthanded, and no one thought the game

GEORGIA 1	ΓΕ	CH 57	, UC	ONN	I 4	4	
UConn	М	FG	FT	RB	Α	PF	PT
Williams	40	6-19	0-0	3	3	3	13
Nelson-Ododa	33	5-11	2-2	10	1	3	12
Westbrook	38	4-10	2-4	2	6	5	11
Juhasz	27	1-5	0-1	5	1	1	2
Edwards	23	0-5	0-0	5	0	1	0
DeBerry	8	1-2	2-2	3	0	0	4
Ducharme	29	1-5	0-0	5	0	3	2
McLean	2	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	_	18-58	6-9	37	11	16	44

Three-point goals: 2-15, 13.3(Westbrook 1-4, Williams 1-8, Ducharme 0-3). FG pct.: 31.0. FT pct.: 66.7. Team rebounds: 4. Turnovers: 16(Williams 4, Nelson-Ododa 3, Westbrook 3, Ducharme 3, Edwards 2, Team). Blocks: 4(Nelson-Ododa 3, Williams). Steals: 6(Westbrook 3, Nelson-Ododa,

Georgia Tech	ı M	FG	FT	RB	Α	PF	PT	
Lahtinen	38	4-12	5-8	3	3	0	15	
Hermosa	40	6-13	1-2	6	3	2	13	
Love	31	4-9	1-2	3	0	1	10	
Strautmane	35	4-12	0-0	7	2	0	8	
Cubaj	36	2-7	1-4	13	7	1	5	
Bates	12	2-3	0-0	0	0	2	6	
Carter	8	0-2	0-0	1	0	1	0	
TOTALS	-:	22-58	8-16	37	15	7	57	
Three-point go	oals:	5-18, 2	7.8(Ba	tes 2-	3, L	ahti	nen 2-	5, Lo
1-2, Cubaj 0-1,	Carl	ter 0-1	, Straut	mane	e 0-6	5). F	G pct.	: 37.9
FT pct.: 50.0. T	eam	rebou	nds: 4.	Turno	ver	s: 10	(Cubi	aj 3,
Hormosa 2 St	rauti	mane ?) Lahti	non I	OVE	To	am) F	Norks

(Strautmane 3, Love 2, Cubaj 2, Hermosa). Steals: 6(Lahti nen 2, Cubaj 2, Hermosa, Carter). 9 19 11 5 - 44 13 15 11 18 - 57

Officials: Smith, Forsberg, Vazsily. Att.: 4,587at McCamish Pavilion, Atlanta, Ga.

would be easy.

Georgia Tech

UConn shot an abysmal 4 of 16 from the floor and trailed 13-9 after the first quarter, with Williams (six) and Westbrook (three) scoring all of UConn's points. Behind much more flowing and well-balanced offense, UConn used a 9-2 run at the beginning of the second to pull ahead by three, though the Yellow Jackets responded following a timeout to regain the advantage.

After freshman Amari DeBerry scored on the first touch of her UConn career and Williams converted a layup, the Huskies lead by a gamehigh four points, but a 3 from Sarah Bates tied things up at 28 apiece going into the break. The Huskies had eight

turnovers at that point, most of them unforced, but had established themselves well in the paint and on the

The teams traded leads early in the third before Nelson-Ododa scored back-to-back jumpers from outside the paint to tie things up twice. While Caroline Ducharme's layup would briefly give the Huskies the lead at the 2:32 mark, a Georgia Tech free throw evened the score once more, and both teams blew chances to gain the lead in the final minute of the period. It didn't help the Huskies that Nelson-Ododa picked up her third foul and needed to sit towards the end of the frame.

Georgia Tech scored the first two baskets of the fourth, with UConn failing to get on the board at all until the 6:27 mark, when Westbrook went 1-for-2 from the free throw line. But the Yellow Jackets converted some timely baskets and finally got going in the paint, while UConn turned the ball over or couldn't find the back of the net themselves, allowing Georgia Tech to extend their lead to seven with under five to play and to nine with just over four remaining.

The Yellow Jackets wouldn't look back from there, and when Westbrook finally broke UConn's scoreless spell with 81 seconds remaining in the game, it was too late, as the deficit was only cut to 12.

In all, the Huskies shot 21.4 percent from the field in the second half.

UConn will have to figure out a winning formula fast, as it returns to action Saturday when it faces UCLA in Newark, N.J., in the Never Forget Tribute Classic.

Alexa Philippou can be reached at aphilippou@courant.com

Huskies

from Page 1

violations.

UConn coach Dan Hurley mentioned Diggins would get more first-half minutes with the Huskies injuries just a week ago, but perhaps Hurley didn't trust the young player yet in a moment like this.

Akok continues to make impact

The difference between Akok Akok in the last two games and the one in the five before that is night and day. On Wednesday his presence was felt everywhere on the glass. As UConn started off cold from the field, he kept them in it with multiple offensive rebounds that led to extra shots. His high-flying energy helped him secure key rebounds on both sides of the ball as he finished with 10, including five offensive.

Even though Akok struggled shooting the ball (1-for-5), it was great to see that not affect his energy on the court. In an environment where many of his teammates struggled, he limited his mistakes while making an impact. He led the team in plus-minus with plusseven.

"I thought [Akok] battled on the backboard," Hurley

Behind-the-arc woes, offensive problems

The magic number for UConn so far this year is seven. In games were they have made seven or more 3s, the Huskies have gone 8-0. In games with less than seven they are 0-2. On Wednesday UConn shot a season-worst 3-for-21 from 3. The amount of good looks UConn failed to convert was big. On top of that, the pressure from the crowd seemed to rattle some shooters as UConn had multiple air balls.

UConn isn't a particularly good 3-point shooting team

(35.6%, which ranks 100th in NCAA Division I).

Freshman Jordan Hawkins was supposed to be help but that's asking a lot for a true freshman to step up against a raucous crowd in his first real road game. Hawkins struggled, shooting 0-for-7 from the field for zero points and three turnovers. Hawkins has the scoring ability UConn fans want to see more of, but the consistency is not quite there yet. If UConn wants to win the next couple of weeks, Hawkins will have to grow up fast.

Overall, this goes back to UConn's offensive issues without Sanogo and Martin. Against multiple mid-majors, UConn went on offensive droughts, and that was with both of them healthy for most of the games. Without them, UConn's offensive hierarchy changes, making Cole the No. 1 option, then Hawkins two and Isaiah Whaley or Tyler Polley three.

Due to the roster remixes, opponents from Grambling State to West Virginia have swarmed Cole, forcing him into tough shots and difficult decisions. Cole had a rough shooting game against West Virginia, going just 6-for-17 from the floor for 14 points. This comes off the game against Grambling State where he shot just 4-for-14 for 18 points.

Cole has had no breathing room to create space to get shots off. UConn's offense seemed tentative, with guys afraid to take a good shot and passing the ball around until it ended up in Cole's hands, forcing him to take a tough shot. This was an issue especially in crunch time. UConn scored just six points in the last five minutes.

"It seemed like a bunch of guys whose confidence is down and didn't want to pull the trigger (on shots)," said Hurley. "We just worry with this group the way we are currently constituted, just where to go with the ball on offense."

Shreyas Laddha can be reached at sladdha@ courant.com.



Malik Curry during the second half Wednesday in Morgantown, W.Va. KATHLEEN BATTEN/AP

Club announces 2022 schedule

By Alexa Philippou Hartford Courant

WNBA SUN

It's never too early to get excited for the 2022 WNBA season.

The league and Connecticut Sun announced the 2022 schedules Thursday, which will include a record-high 36 games for each team.

The Sun, the best team in the WNBA in the 2021 regular season before falling to eventual champion Chicago in the semifinals, will open their season at the New York Liberty on May 7, while their home opener will be a week later, on May 14 when they host the Los Angeles Sparks at Mohegan Sun Arena.

This year will mark the 20th anniversary of when the franchise relocated from Orlando to Uncasville. The anniversary will be celebrated during the team's home opener.

The WNBA regular season is starting and ending earlier than usual in 2022 (ultimately running May 6-Aug. 14) to accommodate a new playoff format that features three rounds of series play and to ensure the season concludes before the 2022 FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup, which starts on Sept. 22. In the new playoff format, the first-round games will be a best-of-three series, while the semifinals and finals will remain best-of-five.

Still, the league will bring back the Commissioner's Cup in-season tournament and championship game, which debuted last year when the Seattle Storm defeated the Sun to win the Cup. The 2022 Commissioner's Cup championship game will be held

The WNBA All-Star Game will be held on July 10, with pre-All Star activities kicking off July 9. Some other highlights of the Sun's

schedule include:

Four meetings against the Sky, New York Liberty and Indiana Fever. A prolonged West Coast trip starting

with two games in Vegas and ending with one in Seattle May 31-June 5. Four four-game homestands, one in

June and one in July/August. The Sun have several question marks entering free agency, which officially begins Feb. 1, including whether reigning league MVP Jonquel Jones, currently an unrestricted free agent, will return to Connecticut, where she's played her entire career?

Alexa Philippou can be reached at aphilippou@courant.com

2022 Sun schedule

May 7: 6 p.m. @ New York Liberty

May 14: 7 p.m. vs. Los Angeles Sparks

May 17: 7 p.m. @ New York Liberty May 20: 7 p.m. vs. Indiana Fever May 22: 3 p.m. @ Indiana Fever May 24: 7 p.m. vs. Dallas Wings May 26: 7 p.m. vs. Dallas Wings May 28: 7 p.m. vs. Washington Mystics May 31: 6 p.m. @ Las Vegas Aces June 2: 7 p.m. @ Las Vegas Aces June 3: 7 p.m. @ Phoenix Mercury June 5: 3 p.m. @ Seattle Storm June 8: 7 p.m. vs. Indiana Fever June 10: 7 p.m. vs. Chicago Sky June 15: 7 p.m. vs. Atlanta Dream June 17: 7 p.m. vs. Seattle Storm June 19: 3 p.m. @ Washington Mystics June 22: 7 p.m. vs. New York Liberty June 26: 3 p.m. @ Atlanta Dream June 29: 11 a.m. @ Chicago Sky July 3:1 p.m. vs. Washington Mystics July 5: 7 p.m. @ Dallas Wings July 13: noon @ Indiana Fever July 15: 7:30 p.m. @ Atlanta Dream July 17: 1 p.m. vs. Las Vegas Aces July 19: 11:30 a.m. vs. New York Liberty July 22: 7 p.m. @ Minnesota Lynx July 24: 6 p.m. @ Minnesota Lynx July 28: 7 p.m. vs. Seattle Storm

July 31: 1 p.m. vs. Chicago Sky Aug. 2: 7 p.m. vs. Phoenix Mercury Aug. 4: 7 p.m. vs. Phoenix Mercury Aug. 7: noon @ Chicago Sky

Aug. 9: 7:30 p.m. @ Los Angeles Sparks Aug. 11: 7:30 p.m. @ Los Angeles Sparks Aug. 14: 1 p.m. vs. Minnesota Lynx

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Seton Hall edges Texas for its 2nd top-10 win

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. - Jared Rhoden scored 18 points and made the go-ahead basket as No. 23 Seton Hall knocked off its second top-10 team this season, beating No. 7 Texas 64-60 on Thursday night.

Cold-shooting Bryce Aiken scored five of his 10 points in the final minute, including a clutch 3-pointer, as the Pirates (8-1) won their fifth straight game. Seton Hall also has an impressive road win at then-No. 4 Michigan on Nov. 16.

Alexis Yetna added 12

points and 11 rebounds for Seton Hall in a game that was part of the annual Big East-Big 12 Battle. Myles Cale had 10 points and Tyrese Samuel came off the bench to grab 11 rebounds.

The Pirates held Texas (6-2) scoreless for 7:20 down the stretch and are off to their best start since opening 9-1 in 2017-18. Tre Mitchell had season

highs of 19 points and 11 rebounds for Texas, which had won five in a row. Foulplagued Timmy Allen added 17 points and a season-best 12 rebounds.

Did you know?

Throughout the U.S., ice storms occur most often during the months of December and January.

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NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Coyotes pay bills, avoid eviction

The Coyotes are caught up on their bills. No eviction necessary. The hockey team in the desert paid off its overdue taxes and other bills Thursday, a day after receiving word the city of Glendale was going to lock the Coyotes out of Gila River Arena if all debts to the city and the management company for the arena aren't paid. Glendale city manager Kevin Phelps sent a letter Wednesday informing the Coyotes they owed \$1.3 million in taxes, including \$250,000 to the city. Phelps informed the Coyotes that the Arizona Department of Revenue had filed a notice of tax lien for unpaid state and city taxes. Phelps also said in his letter that he had instructed ASM Global, which manages Gila River Arena, to not allow the Coyotes in the arena if the bills weren't paid by Dec. 20. The Coyotes said late Wednesday saying the unpaid bills were an unfortunate human error and they would rectify the situation quickly. They did Thursday, avoiding what would have been an awkward turn in the franchise's long journey to find a permanent home. Glendale will not renew its agreement with the franchise beyond this season. The team has submitted a bid for a tract of land in Tempe in what could be its first step to land a permanent home.

Big honor for Alabama QB Young

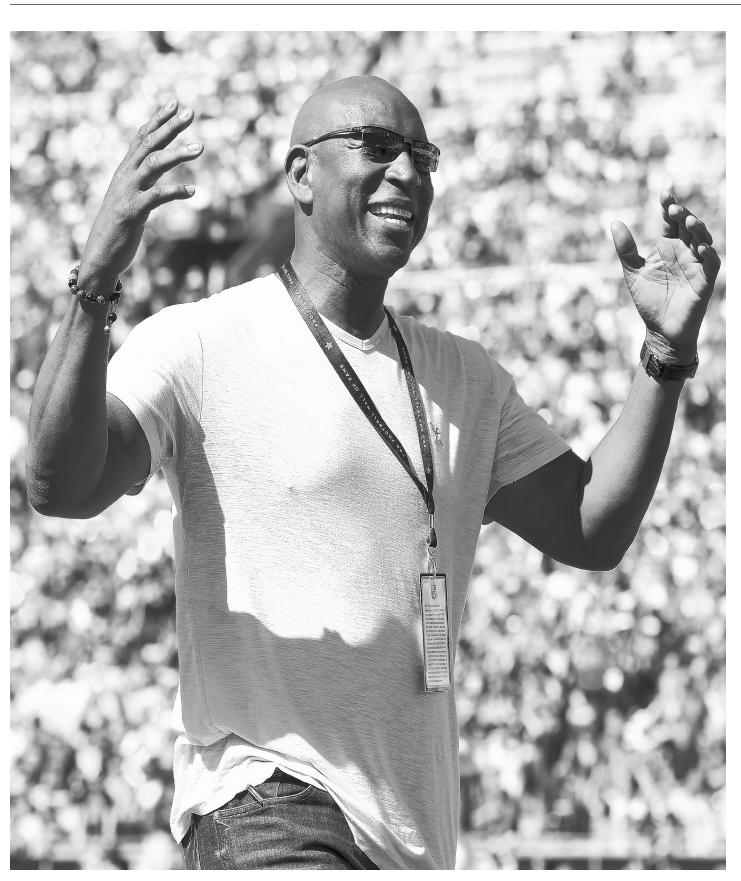


Alabama quarterback Bryce Young is The Associated Press college football player of the year, giving the Crimson Tide its second consecutive winner. Young received 42 of 53 first-place votes from AP Top 25 voters and 137 points to easily finish ahead of Michigan defensive end Aidan Hutchinson (four first-

place votes, 67 points) for the AP player of the year honor. Pittsburgh quarterback Kenny Pickett was third; Alabama linebacker Will Anderson Jr. was fourth; and Ohio State quarterback C.J. Stroud was fifth. Young, Huchinson, Pickett and Stroud are the finalists for the Heisman Trophy, which will be presented Saturday in New York. A sophomore and first-year starter, Young passed for 4,322 yards and 43 TDs, leading the top-ranked Tide to the SEC championship and the No. 1 seed in the College Football Playoff. The Tide will face No. 4 Cincinnation Dec. 31 at the Cotton Bowl. Alabama receiver DeVonta Smith became the first Alabama player to win AP player of the year in 2020. Young is the 18th quarterback to win the award since it was established in 1998.

Boxing may lose spot in '28 Games

Boxing, weightlifting and modern pentathlon on Thursday were set a target of about 18 months to make changes in order to keep their status as Olympic sports for the 2028 Los Angeles Games. The governing bodies of boxing and weightlifting were described as problem children by International Olympic Committee president Thomas Bach, who has long voiced concerns with the leadership of those sports and issues with corruption and doping. Modern pentathlon has effectively been told by the IOC to remove equestrian jumping from the event, provoking a backlash from angry athletes. The high-profile incident of a coach striking a horse at the Tokyo Olympics has undermined modern pentathlon's reputation despite more than 100 years in the Games since being created by IOC founder Pierre de Coubertin. All three sports have been left off the initial list of 28 on the 2028 program, which will be put to IOC members for approval in February. The three sports left isolated still have a "pathway for inclusion" at the 2023 annual meeting of the IOC membership, Bach said. They need to "demonstrate to the satisfaction" of the IOC executive board they have made changes variously to the governance and organizational culture of the sports.



Running back great Eric Dickerson, above in 2017, was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame on Tuesday night in Las Vegas. GETTY FILE

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Another Hall call for Eric

NFL great Dickerson's career at SMU finally gets its due

By Danny Webster Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Make no mistake. Eric Dickerson was glad he was headed into the College Football Hall of Fame after all these years. He took the stage earlier this week and was cemented in the sport's lore.

"Am I happy to be here? Yeah," Dickerson said Tuesday ahead of the ceremony. "Do I really care? No, honestly."

The former SMU running back, who played for the Mustangs from 1979-82, was one of 27 players invited to Tuesday's induction ceremony in Las Vegas. Dickerson was voted into the 2020 class, but the ceremony was canceled due to the pandemic.

Other inductees included Heisman Trophy winners Carson Palmer and Eric Crouch, former Eastern Illinois quarterback and current CBS analyst Tony Romo, and longtime Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops.

It was an honor long overdue to Dickerson. The Pro Football Hall of Famer ran for 4,450 yards and 47 touchdowns at SMU, going from a 5-6 team as a freshman to an 11-0-1 club that won the Cotton Bowl his

But the school's reputation was tarnished after the NCAA handed down the "death penalty" in 1987 for multiple violations that occurred before Dickerson arrived at SMU, up until 1986. Part of that controversy was

Dickerson being gifted a sports car at around the same time he committed to Texas A&M before ultimately switching to SMU.

Dickerson has maintained the car was a gift from his grandmother.

"We had nothing to do with that death penalty," Dickerson told the AP, referring to himself and "Pony Express" teammate Craig James. "That's the travesty of the whole deal. People have the tendency to think I had something to do with it. We were a bunch of young kids.'

By the time the NCAA punished SMU, Dickerson was already a record-breaking running back in the NFL. His 2,105 rushing yards in the 1984 season, his second with the Rams, is still the league's single-season

Dickerson was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1999 after finishing his 12-year career with 13,259 yards, currently ninth-best in NFL history.

"It's bittersweet," he said. "I look at my university because they made us like the black eye of the NCAA. And I just don't like that. I'm honest about it."

Dickerson is still proud to be an SMU alum and appreciative for the school to helping him and his family get to Las Vegas for the opportunity, even if it's almost 40 years since he played football in Dallas.

"I know why they held me out because of the death penalty, but I'm proud of my school," Dickerson said. "Leaving college, most of these kids don't have anything. And that's their opportunity to help themselves and get an education if they don't play football. I didn't have a plan to play professional football. It just broke out.

"The truth is going to always come out. I'm really happy to represent my university and I'm proud of it.

"I'm glad I went to SMU."

Tight end Tony Romo?

Romo's rise from undrafted small school quarterback to Cowboys starter might not have happened in his coach at Eastern Illinois had his way. Romo said Bob Spoo tried to convert him to tight end after his freshman year.

"I tell Coach Spoo, when we look back, I was like, 'Are you really that good at talent evaluation?" Romo recalled. "He's like, You got me there, Tony. That's a good call.'

"He was right, though, because when I came in as a freshman, I was a terrible thrower of the football. I remember after that first year, he goes, 'Tony, we're thinking of moving you to tight end.' I said, Just give me three months. If I don't come back better or I haven't improved, we can have this discussion again.'

Romo went on to be a three-time Ohio Valley Conference offensive player of the year from 2000-02, throwing for 7,816 yards and 82 touchdown passes. He won the Walter Payton Award in 2002 for being the best offensive player in college football.

He went undrafted in 2003, but went on to play 13 seasons with the Cowboys.

"That really set the stage for my work ethic the rest of my life," Romo said.

China scoffs at diplomatic boycotts

Associated Press

BEIJING — China on Thursday dismissed the decision by Canada and the United Kingdom to join Washington's diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games as a "farce."

China is also not concerned that the officials' absence would spark a chain reaction, and numerous heads of state, government leaders and members of royal families have registered to attend, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said at a daily briefing.

The three countries have said they won't send government dignitaries to the games, which run Feb. 4-20, to protest human rights abuses in China, while New Zealand said it informed Beijing earlier that it wouldn't be sending any officials due to pandemic travel restrictions but had also communicated its human rights

Under the diplomatic boycott, the countries will still send their athletes to

Wang said China had not extended invitations to the U.S., Canada or the U.K. and that it "doesn't matter if their officials come or not, they will see the success of

the Beijing Winter Olympics." "Sports has nothing to do with politics," Wang said. "It is they who have written, directed and performed this farce."

China is confident there will be no chain reaction, and perceives overwhelming global support for the games,

"As of now, numerous heads of state, leaders of government and royal family members have registered to attend the Beijing Winter Olympics, and we welcome them," Wang said. "China is committed to making greater contributions to the international Olympic cause and will offer up a streamlined, safe and exciting Olympics to the world."

China has vowed to respond to the U.S. with "firm countermeasures" over the boycott, but has given no details on how it plans to retaliate.

Rights groups have called for a total boycott of the Beijing Winter Games, citing Chinese human rights abuses against its Uyghur minority in the northwest Xinjiang region, which some have called genocide. They also point to Beijing's suppression of democratic protests in Hong Kong and a sweeping crackdown on dissent in the semi-autonomous territory.

Canada's move came as little surprise in the context of the sharp deterioration in bilateral ties since China arrested two Canadians in December 2018, shortly after Canada arrested Meng Wanzhou, Huawei Technologies' chief financial officer and the daughter of the company's founder, on a U.S. extradition request.

Canada and others condemned what they called "hostage politics," while China described the charges against Huawei and Meng as a politically motivated attempt to hold back China's economic and technological develop-

China, the U.S. and Canada completed what was essentially a high-stakes prisoner swap earlier this year, but the Chinese government's reputation has been severely tarnished in Canada.

One global VIP who will be attending the winter Olympics is United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. The U.N. chief received an invitation from the International Olympic Committee to attend the Beijing Winter Games "and he has accepted it," U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said Thursday.

Earlier, French president Emmanuel Macron said he does not support a diplomatic boycott of the Games, but could reconsider after talks with other European countries.

"We should not politicize" the Games by taking "small and symbolic" steps, Macron said. He added that he will seek opinions from other European Union states and the IOC and then announce a common decision "in the next weeks."

FRIDAY

Morning clouds, some developing 45 afternoon sun. Showers should develop at night. South wind

33

Mostly cloudy, becoming very breezy and mild with showers around.

SATURDAY

Early clouds give 61 way to a mostly sunny sky, windy. LOW

LOW

30

SUNDAY

Mostly sunny, breezy and

seasonably mild. LOW

32°

MONDAY

Mostly sunny and seasonably mild.

TUESDAY

LOW

31

For the latest weather news throughout your day.

-Gary Lessor

Temp.

49°

48

B. I. Sound

Cloudy

SW, 10-15

Low

2:03 a.m. 8:33 a.m. 51 2:24 p.m. 9:07 p.m.

3:14 a.m. 9:26 a.m.

3:35 p.m. 10:00 p.m.

5:57 a.m. 12:49 a.m.

6:18 p.m. 1:12 p.m.

3:32 a.m. 9:40 a.m.

3:54 p.m. 10:12 p.m.

3:52 a.m. 10:04 a.m.

4:14 p.m. 10:36 p.m.

3:56 a.m. 10:18 a.m.

4:18 p.m. 10:50 p.m.

L.I. Sound E

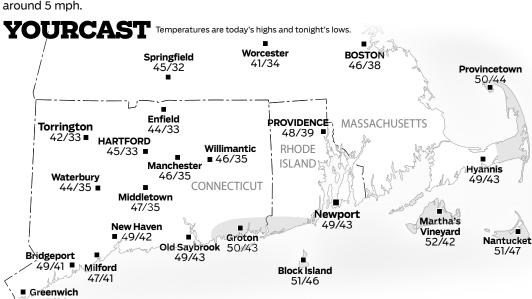
Cloudy

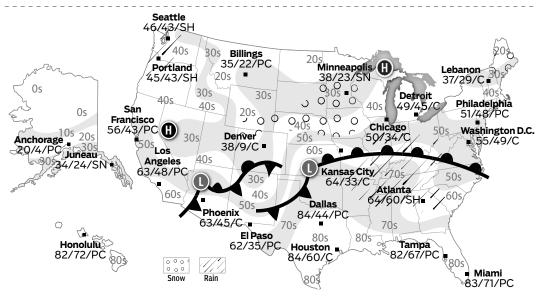
SW, 5-10

courant.com/weather

High

CONNECTICUT WEATHER





69 60 SH

48 44 PC

77 36 PC

81 63 PC

53 51 C

67 39

53 48 C KEY: S Sunny, C Cloudy, PC Partly Cloudy, R Rain, SH Showers, SN Snow, SF Snow Flurries, T T-storms

Salt Lake City 37 25 SF

81 69

San Juan

Tucson

Athens

Beijing

Beirut

62 51 PC Bermuda

Bangkok

WORLD

Amsterdam

OUTLOOK

After the first measurable snow across the state, albeit a minor event, the pattern will be changing the next few days to above normal levels, and it looks like it could have lasting power. Friday will have morning clouds giving way to some afternoon sunshine with highs in the mid to upper 40s. A warm front will move through on Saturday with scattered showers and unseasonably mild temperatures as highs reach close to 60 degrees. It will cool back to the mid-40s on Sunday, but highs will be near 50 again for Monday and Tuesday. It should be a while before we have more snow.

ALMANAC

30-day Precipitation History In Inches

1.0

0.8

0.6

0.4

0.2

Tides

N.L. State Pier

Saybrook Jetty

at Portland

New Haven

Stamford

Boating

Weather

Wind

Madison

Connecticut River

otal	Norma
.16	0.14
.57	1.26
2.56	44.23
2.1	0.3
2.1	4.3
	.16 .57 2.56 2.1

Air Quality Forecast For Today

Precipitation, temperature at

Good 50	Low 1	23°
Air	Ultraviolet	Wind
Quality	Index	Chill
Today	Today	Today

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	7:07 a.m.	7:08 a.m.
Sunset	4:20 p.m.	4:20 p.m.
Moonrise	12:25 p.m.	12:48 p.m.
Moonset	11:35 p.m.	a.m.

Moon Phase						
irst	Full	Last	New			
ec 10	Dec 18	Dec 26	Jan 2			

1 ft. Seas 1 ft. 2-3 ft. High Temperature Low Thursday Normal for date 43 26 4 in 1968 Record for date 61 in 1991 A year ago 20

River Stage at Hartford: 6.66 feet at 6:30 p.m.

L.I. Sound W

VCloudy

SW, 5-10

AROUND THE WORLD Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

	Kingston
	Lisbon
	London
36 32 C	Madrid
79 70 SH	Mexico City
75 54 S	Milan
84 75 PC	Montreal
84 63 S	Moscow
45 44 PC	Nassau
41 32 S	New Delhi
34 33 SF	Paris
73 66 PC	Prague
64 54 51	Die de Jane

Rome

Singapore

F

90 75 S Stockholm 73 61 PC 63 55 PC Sydney 45 36 PC Tel Aviv 75 51 S 59 45 Tokyo 54 39 PC 75 51 S 36 28 R Toronto 45 41 PC Vancouver 32 30 SN 7 3 SN 88 64 PC 75 48 PC 46 37 SH 36 28 PC

84 68 F

48 39 R

52 39

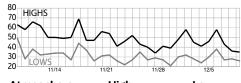
91 75

43 41 R 36 28 SH WESTERN CONNECTICUT UNIVERSITY Weather Center

35 at 12:05 p.m 26 at 7:04 a.m 99 Range this year

Last **Heating Degree Days** Season Normal Season For July 1 - Dec 9 1224 1238 1430

30-day Temperature History



Atmosphere High Low Barometer 30.25 at 7 p.m. 29.93 at 12 a.m. 17° at 5 p.m. **Dew point** 28° at 12 a.m.

SATURDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE CIAC TOURNAMENTS

FOOTBALL

NEW ENGLAND

Burlington

Caribou

Concord

Montpelier

Mt. Wash.

NATION

Albuquerque

Atlantic City

Albany

Portland

33 29 SF

22 19 C

35 27 C

33 31 C

24 21 SF

33 27 SF

49 21 SH

Baltimore

Bismarck

Charleston

Cincinnati

Cleveland

Indianapolis

Jacksonville

Miami Beach

Las Vegas

Milwaukee

Boise

Buffalo

49 45 C

38 31 PC

47 43 C

61 57 C 53 52 C

75 61 PC

55 35 PC

81 74 PC

57 41

Nashville

New York

Okla. City

Orlando

Raleigh

St. Louis

42 33 C San Diego

San Antonio

Pittsburgh

New Orleans

At Trumbull High School Class S-Final Bloomfield (12-0), 11a.m. Class LL-Final No. 3Darien (11-1) vs. No. 1Fairfield

Prep (11-1), 3p.m. At Veteran's Stadium, New Britain Class I - Final No. 5Windsor (11-1) vs. No. 3Maloney

(11-1), 11a.m. Class **M**—Final No. 2Rockville (10-2) vs. No. 1Killingly (11-0), 3p,m,

WEDNESDAY'S LATE COLLEGE RESULTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

EASTERN 75, UMASS-DARTMOUTH 73 WOMEN'S HOCKEY

YALE 3, BOSTON UNIVERSITY 2 THURSDAY'S

COLLEGE RESULTS **MEN'S BASKETBALL**

WESLEYAN 74, MANHATTANVILLE 60 ST. JOSEPH 86, ELMS 60

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL **GEORGIA TECH 57, UCONN 44**

ST. JOSEPH 67, MCLA 49 INDIANA 91, FAIRFIELD 58 FRIDAY'S COLLEGE **SCHEDULE**

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL National Invitational Championship-

Quarterfinal UConn at Valparaiso, 8p.m. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Union at Trinity, 5p.m.

MEN'S HOCKEY Wesleyan at Plymouth State, 7p.m. Brown at Yale, 7p.m. Quinnipiac at LIU, 7:45p.m.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Suffolk at Trinity, 7p.m. **SATURDAY'S COLLEGE SCHEDULE**

MEN'S BASKETBALL

CCNY at Trinity, 1p.m. Central at Providence, 2p.m. Maine at Quinnipiac, 2p.m. Hartford at UNLV, 3p.m. Wesleyan at Farmingdale State, 3p.m. Eastern at Plymouth State, 3p.m. Anna Maria at St. Joseph, 3p.m. Never Forget Tribute Classic (Newark, St. Bonaventure vs. UConn, 3:30p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Eastern at Plymouth State, 1p.m. Anna Maria at St. Joseph. 1p.m. Quinnipiac at Providence, 1p.m. UMass Lowell at Yale, 2p.m. Gordon at Trinity, 3p.m. Wesleyan at Williams, 3p.m. Never Forget Tribute Classic (Newark, UCLA vs. UConn, 1p.m.

MEN'S HOCKEY

Hobart at Trinity, 4p.m. LIU at Quinnipiac, 7p.m

WOMEN'S HOCKEY Wesleyan at Manhattanville, 2p.m. Johnson & Wales at Trinity, 7p.m.

WRESTLING Williams at Trinity, 7:30p.m. **SUNDAY'S COLLEGE**

SCHEDULE MEN'S BASKETBALL

Fairfield at William & Mary, 1p.m. Basketball HoF Invitational (Brooklyn, Iona vs. Yale, 7p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Iona at Sacred Heart, 2p.m.

AHL							
Standings							
Atlantic	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS	PCT
Springfield	19	14	3	2	0	30	.789
Hartford	18	12	4	2	0	26	.722
Providence	17	8	5	3	1	20	.588
Hershey	17	8	6	2	1	19	.559
Charlotte	21	10	9	2	0	22	.524
W-B/Scranto	n 18	8	8	0	2	18	.500
Bridgeport	22	7	12	1	2	17	.386
Lehigh Valley	y 19	3	11	4	1	11	.289
North	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS	PCT
Utica	19	16	1	2	0	34	.895
Rochester	18	12	6	0	0	24	.667
Cleveland	21	10	6	2	3	25	.595
Toronto	17	9	6	1	1	20	.588
Laval	21	10	9	2	0	22	.524
Belleville	20	9	11	0	0	18	.450
Syracuse	18	6	9	2	1	15	.417
Central	GP	W	_	OTL	SOL	PTS	PCT
Chicago	20	14	4	1	1	30	.750
Manitoba	21	13	7	1	0	27	.643
Iowa	19	9	8	1	1	20	.526
Rockford	19	9	8	1	1	20	.526
Grand Rapid	s 20	9	8	2	1	21	.525
Texas	18	7	8	2	1	17	.472
Milwaukee	20	7	12	1	0	15	.375
Pacific	GP	W	L		SOL	PTS	PCT
Stockton	18	14	2	2	0	30	.833
Ontario	17	12	4	0	1	23	.735
Henderson	16	8	6	1	1	18	.563
Tucson	16	8	7	1	0	17	.531

San Diego 0 19 8 8 1 2 Colorado 19 .500 15 .500

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS

17 6 10 1 0 13 .382

CLEVELAND 8, SYRACUSE 3 ROCHESTER 4, UTICA 3 (OT) LAVAL 3, MANITOBA 2 ROCKFORD 4, IOWA 3 (SO) THURSDAY'S

RESULT CHICAGO AT TEXAS, LATE **FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE**

Syracuse at Charlotte, 7p.m. Cleveland at Utica, 7p.m. Belleville at Providence, 7p.m. Toronto at Springfield, 7p.m. Laval at Rochester, 7p.m. Grand Rapids at Manitoba, 8p.m. Iowa at Milwaukee, 8p.m. Henderson at Rockford, 8p.m. Stockton at Tucson, 9p.m. Bakersfield at Colorado, 9p.m. San Diego at Ontario, 10p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL					
Big East stand MEN'S	dings				
Team	CON	F CPCT	OVR	PCT	
Providence	0-0	.000	9-1	.900	
Seton Hall	0-0	.000	8-1	.889	
Xavier	0-0	.000	8-1	.889	
DePaul	0-0	.000	7-1	.875	
Marquette	0-0	.000	8-2	.800	
UConn	0-0	.000	8-2	.800	
Creighton	0-0	.000	7-2	.778	
Villanova	0-0	.000	7-2	.778	
St. John's	0-0	.000	6-2	.750	
Butler	0-0	.000	6-3	.667	
Georgetown	0-0	.000	4-4	.500	

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS GEORGETOWN 100, UMBC 71 Big East-Big 12Battle MARQUETTE 64, KANSAS STATE 63

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

85 76 SH

61 39 SH

41 30

61 54 SH

90 72 PC

48 30 C

72 59 PC

Budapest

Cairo

Dubai

Dublin

Edinburah

Hong Kong

Helsinki

Istanbul

Jerusalem

70 63 PC Johannesburg 77 57 T

Cancun

Buenos Aires

MONMOUTH AT ST. JOHN'S, LATE Big East-Big 12Battle **SETON HALL 64, TEXAS 60**

FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE

ville, c	pp.III.	
CONF	CPCT	OVR PCT
2-0	1.000	7-2 .778
2-0	1.000	7-2 .778
2-0	1.000	5-2 .714
1-0	1.000	5-2 .714
1-0	1.000	4-4 .500
1-1	.500	4-4 .500
1-1	.500	5-5 .500
0-2	.000	4-5 .444
0-2	.000	3-4 .429
0-2	.000	3-5 .375
0-2	.000	0-8 .000
	CONF 2-0 2-0 2-0 1-0 1-1 1-1 0-2 0-2	2-0 1.000 2-0 1.000 2-0 1.000 1-0 1.000 1-0 1.000 1-1 .500 0-2 .000 0-2 .000 0-2 .000

0-2 .000 **WEDNESDAY'S** LATE RESULT

THURSDAY'S

RESULTS GEORGIA TECH 57, UCONN 44 DEPAIL AT KENTLICKY LATE VILLANOVA AT JAMES MADISON, LATE GEORGE WASHINGTON AT **GEORGETOWN, LATE**

FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE

HOCKEY EAST					
Standings					
MEN'S Team	OGP	OVR CGP CONF C	PT		
UMass	15	9-4-2 11 7-2-2	24		
Northeastern	18	13-4-1 11 7-3-1	23		
UMass Lowell	14	8-3-3 96-2-1	19		
Providence	19	12-7-0 11 6-5-0	19		
Boston College	15	8-5-2 95-3-1	17		
Boston Universit	ty 17	6-9-2 12 5-5-2	16		
UConn	14	8-6-0 95-4-0	14		
Merrimack	15	6-9-0 10 3-7-0	12		
New Hampshire	17	7-9-1 11 3-7-1	9		
Vermont	14	3-9-2 82-4-2	8		

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULT

15 1-11-3 11 1-8-2 7

UMASS 3, MERRIMACK 2 (OT) **FRIDAY'S**

Maine

SCHEDULE UMass Lowell at Vermont, 7p.m. Princeton at Providence, 7p.m. Union at Maine, 7:30p,m Boston College at Boston University,

WOMEN'S OGP OVR CGP CONF CPTS Northeastern Boston University 18 9-6-3 15 8-4-3 27 UConn 14-4-2 13 8-3-2 25 Boston College 10-7-0 12 8-4-0 21 17 8-7-2 10 5-4-1 16 7-5-5 10 4-4-2 16 Vermont 6-12-1 12 4-7-1 16 Maine 19 5-14-1 15 4-10-1 15 6-10-2 13 4-8-1 15 Merrimack New Hampshire 18 Holy Cross 2-14-0 12 1-11-0 3

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULT

YALE 3, BOSTON UNIVERSITY 2

THURSDAY'S RESULT PENN STATE 3, NEW HAMPSHIRE 0

FRIDAY'S

SCHEDULE Boston College at Vermont, 2p.m. Penn State at New Hampshire, 3p.m. Brown at Holy Cross, 6p.m.



Bloomfield's Conellius Patrick stiff-arms New Fairfield's Justin McCormack during a Class S semifinal last weekend. STAN GODLEWSKI/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

Bloomfield

from Page 1

points. Last week in the Class S semifinals, they beat New Fairfield 22-14, forcing six turnovers.

"After the first game, Bristol Central, we were down, but we came back and fought through all four quarters," Rose said. "Then we felt it was going to be a good season."

The defense didn't give up more than seven points in any regular-season game and posted three shutouts. The offense, with Rose leading the ground attack, has been explosive.

Rose, a senior, has rushed for close to 1,500 yards and 22 total touchdowns. Against Rocky Hill in October, he rushed for a season-high 255 yards and five touchdowns. The only person who could slow Rose down was Outlaw, who made sure to give his other top running back, junior Conellius Patrick, enough work. Patrick recorded over 1,200 yards and 15 rushing touchdowns. Quarterback Darrien Foster has thrown for 22 touchdowns.

Through the years, we've had a lot of great individuals," said Outlaw, who is 100-26 in 11 seasons. "This is the best team we've had, and they play as a team."

The lost 2020 season due to COVID-19 served to give the players a greater appreciation of what they have. The Warhawks seniors were part of a state championship team in 2018 and reached the finals again in 2019. For seniors like Rose, who aspires to play at North Carolina A&T, this is a chance to claim ownership of a champi-

"Dallas has to win a championship before he gets put with the super elites that

have come out of Bloomfield," Outlaw said, laying down the challenge. "This would be his, where he's the featured back. Now is his time. He knows how to be a football player, he's been one all his life. It's in his blood, it's in his family's blood."

Rose was inspired to play football by his father, Christopher, and his brother, Chris Jr.. Now, when he makes his way around one of the state's premier football towns, he sees the little kids, envisions himself as them and envisions them as the next generation of Warhawks.

"We carry [the alumni] legacy," Rose said. "Everybody's watching us. It feels good to see us inspire kids. It really pushes me to be better as a person and keep doing what I'm doing on the football field. ... It's a blessing to be part of this tradition."

It's that support, not to mention the steady flow of young athletes in Bloomfield, that keeps practices warm, even when the first snow flies.

"I just know I've got to perform as a Bloomfield quarterback," Foster said. "There have been a lot of great quarterbacks that have come through here, and I've got to perform like I'm one of them."

The Cromwell/Portland co-op, meanwhile, got everyone's attention with its 46-7 win over 20-time state champ Ansonia in the semifinals. The road to the Class S championships usually passes through Ansonia or Bloomfield. This year, it passed through both for the Panthers.

"We believe in competition here," said Cromwell/Portland coach Randell Bennett. "We want to compete against the best."

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com